

The Leader.

"The one Idea which History exhibits as evermore developing itself into greater distinctness is the Idea of Humanity—the noble endeavour to throw down all the barriers erected between men by prejudice and one-sided views; and by setting aside the distinctions of Religion, Country, and Colour, to treat the whole Human race as one brotherhood, having one great object—the free development of our spiritual nature."—*Humboldt's Cosmos.*

Contents.

NEWS OF THE WEEK—	PAGE
Imperial Parliament	362
The Sebastopol Committee	363
The War	363
The "Moniteur" on the War	365
The Vienna Conference	366
The Imperial Visit	366
Hon. Sir Qui Mal y Pense	368
The Paris Exhibition	368
The Loan	369
India	369
America	369
Testimonial to the late Lord Dudley Stuart	369

Our Civilisation	370
Health of London during the Week	370
State of Trade, Labour, and the Poor	370
Continental Notes	371
Naval and Military News	371
Miscellaneous	372
Postscript	373
PUBLIC AFFAIRS—	
The Reception	374
What of Austria?	374
The Non-National Loan	375

Middle-Class Statesmen and the Army	375
The Cambridge Bill	376
The Sanitary and Medical Con- duct of the War	377
"N. V."—A Problem	377
Religious Arrests in Sardinia ..	377
LITERATURE—	
Summary	378
Law Reports	378
My Courtship and its Conse- quences	379

A Batch of American Books	379
Books on our Table	380
THE ARTS—	
The British Artists	380
The National Institution	380
Royal Italian Opera	381
Births, Marriages, and Deaths...	382
COMMERCIAL AFFAIRS—	
City Intelligence, Markets, Ad- vertisements, &c.	382-384

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SATURDAY, APRIL 21, 1855.

[PRICE SIXPENCE.]

News of the Week.

THIS week has been a crescendo upon last week, with the same objects of public attention presented in a present and intense aspect. From a speculation, the Imperial visit has become a reality; there is a diplomatic crisis in Vienna; a military crisis in Sebastopol, with the renewed bombardment; a crisis in our money market with the Loan and the Budget; and a crisis certainly in the over-excited state of the metropolis, and no inconsiderable part of the country.

An event like the visit of the EMPEROR and EMPRESS OF THE FRENCH must necessarily have absorbed the attention of the multitude; but besides the impressions always produced by the sight of power concentrated in individuals,—besides the vulgar adulation of exalted rank,—there were special reasons why England should give something more than a cordial welcome even to the man whom personally they would repel with execration. There was common curiosity; the week has been infinitely more gratifying to public curiosity than a visit to Madame Tussaud's. There was the embodiment of the French alliance, so gratifying to the people of both countries. There was also the spirit of hospitality, excited by the arrival of such a visitor, and afterwards self-excited by its own indulgence. JOHN BULL invites a friend to take a glass of wine with him, and finishes with an orgy, because his own hospitality has fired his own brain; and so it has been from Monday till Saturday. LOUIS NAPOLEON was lost in the crowned Emperor, and the people gave the chief of the pageant a round of applause throughout the whole winding line of his tour. He landed at Dover on Monday, under a cloud; for the shores were veiled in an ominous fog which kept him late; but Dover was thronged with sea-side holiday-makers and sightseers; the corporation vied with the landlord of the Lord Warden in the fervour of their obsequiousness; the PRINCE CONSORT came down specially to meet the Elect of December; and the short journey from the inn to the railway-station,—the whole line of the railway where the people could collect to see the royal party flash by,—the Bricklayers' Arms, the impromptu procession of the travelling carriages and escort through Charing-cross to the Great Western station,—were ended by passing under a "triumphal arch" at Windsor—a trophy

to commemorate the hero of a day, and then to be consigned to the lumber warehouse.

The EMPEROR—formerly Prince LOUIS NAPOLEON BONAPARTE—and the EMPRESS—not long since a Spanish young lady familiar to our society—were guests for whom a part of the royal Castle of Windsor had been specially prepared; the whole week was arranged for their delight and entertainment; there was a royal hunt on Tuesday, only the EMPEROR was too tired to join it; a review and installation of the Garter on Wednesday; the presentation of the City address, the State visit to the Opera House, on Thursday; the Crystal Palace on Friday; departure on Saturday. The main thoroughfare of the metropolis on Thursday, during the visit to the City and the return, forcibly recalled to mind the last occasion when a great throng lined that road—the funeral of the Duke of WELLINGTON. The next to follow the Hero of Waterloo along that path, so prepared, was the nephew of the man whom he had sent to St. Helena.

While the EMPEROR was here, rather startling intelligence arrived from the seat of negotiations. The real state of the case at Vienna has not yet been publicly explained. The reports that have flocked to this country, from that capital, from Berlin, and from Paris, are so mingled with manifest fabrications, that no one deserves much attention. Yet taking them altogether, and coupling their purport with the silence of Ministerial organs both in Paris and London, it seems to be evident that something has occurred unfavourable to the position of the Western Powers. It cannot be the refusal of Russia; for that has not yet been formally delivered, and has long been anticipated with certainty. The assertion is, that Austria is drawing back; and the worst evidence in support of that assertion is, that it has not yet met with any direct contradiction. Whatever has happened, it seems to have been notified to the Western Powers while the EMPEROR NAPOLEON was in England; and it may have been earnestly discussed in the intervals of State festivities.

The news from the seat of war is scarcely less stirring, and scarcely less uncertain. The bombardment of Sebastopol recommenced on the 9th instant; it was continuing on the 14th; it was then reported that OMAR PACHA had received a requisition to send a picked body of men to Kamiesch Bay; two breaches had already been made in the walls; the cannon of the Allies, it is said, proved immensely to outweigh those of the

Russians; the approaches had got so close, that the regular day's work began to assume the fashion of fighting in the field; and the assault appeared to be impending. The anticipation created by this announcement, however, only serves to arouse, and not to satisfy, anxiety. If the southern side be taken, what will the Allies do with it? Highly probable descriptions of the fortress make it unlikely that the south could be held while the north side is still in the hands of the defenders; and the attempt at occupation would only expose the invaders to still greater slaughter than they have yet incurred.

The Loan is already a matter of history, although the money has not yet come in. The City men met the CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER on Monday, and heard his proposal. He told them that he wanted 16,000,000 of money, that for that he would give them 16,000,000 of stock at three per cent.; and since no City men would give 100l. in full for 100l. Three per Cent. Stock, with prices scarcely above 90, he added as an inducement a "terminable annuity" to last for thirty years. The questions of the money men seemed to place the CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER in some difficulty. At all events, his manners indicated no confidence, and City men did not display greater confidence. Did he intend to admit bidders for small portions? Sir CORNEWALL LEWIS rather thought so; but when the City men demurred, he consulted his chief, Lord PALMERSTON, and gave way. Catechisms about possible subsidies to foreign nations, cross-questionings about the inconvenient nature of the terminable annuity tacked on to the perpetual annuity, reiterated inquiries about the sale of Stock on Savings Bank account, and a doubt whether the declaration of a Government intention was to be regarded as a pledge, were incidents which showed an uneasy, almost mistrustful feeling among the City men; and Sir CORNEWALL LEWIS's manner was not calculated to remove that mistrust. He did not seem to be at home. However, the City men went away, leaving an impression that the money would be had; and the funds in the City began to go up and down under the alternate influence of endeavours to depress them, in order to get the better terms from Government, and the purchases of the undisciplined public. The terminable annuity is regarded as an unfair pretext for using that popular name, and as a paltry innovation not worth the inconvenience and disturbance which it creates in the

usual way. ROTHSCHILD, however, has secured the cash, at an annuity of 14s. 6d.—and so that is safe. The CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER proposes to introduce a clause into the Loan Act, binding the Government to pay off 1,000,000l. every year.

The budget is, like the loan, a compromise between irreconcilable opinions. The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER reports a deficit of 23,000,000l. sterling, for 16,000,000l. of which he provides by the loan, and 5,300,000l. to be made up by new taxes. These new taxes, besides some trifling additions to spirits and a penny stamp on bankers' checks, rest chiefly on two grounds—2d. in the pound more on the income-tax, 3s. per cwt. on sugar, 1d. per pound on coffee, and 3d. per pound on tea. The Budget is levelled at income and the grocer's shop. The income-tax will be unpleasant for those who have incomes; the sugar touches a weak point, the article being at a terribly depressed price, both in the colony and in the shop, and the trade everywhere struggling with many difficulties. Why, while he was about it, could not Sir CORNEWALL meet the whole deficit by a loan? And why, while he was about it, should not the loan have been made sufficient to purchase all the materials for carrying on the war with overwhelming effect, and bringing it suddenly to a close—fifty millions if necessary? Why? Is it because Sir CORNEWALL and colleagues do not wish to carry on the war effectually?

Parliament has but nibbled at its other duties this week—it has been paralysed by the Imperial visit. It reassembled on Monday, but only to go through matters of form, and the business each evening was trifling. Sir BENJAMIN HALL has carried the second reading of his London Municipality Bill, the discussion to stand over. Lord ROBERT GROSVENOR has introduced a bill to prevent Sunday trading in the metropolis, supported by Lord EBRINGTON—a curious combination of subjects and names. Colonel BOLDERO proposed a select committee on the medical department of the Navy and Army, rejected by the House of Commons, on the showing of the Ministers that the Sebastopol Committee had better finish its work first. Irish Fisheries, Irish and Tenant Compensation, and some other subjects have been suffered to take a stage without discussion, or have been rejected almost equally without discussion.

The Sebastopol Committee has resumed its place as a *feuilleton* in the daily papers, with as strange stories as any. Sir CHARLES TREVELYAN has been a witness before the Committee; Commissary-General FIDLER has been the subject of inquiry. Sir CHARLES seemed to show that FIDLER had almost no means of doing that which he was required to do, and that he concentrated in himself an immense mass of failure. FIDLER failed, but every other department besides FIDLER's supplied the reasons why he should fail. He wanted 12,000 horses, he was allowed 6000; he wanted transports, and had none; and so forth. It is "the system" again; but the Committee has not yet had the system before it. The Committee keeps on, like a worn-out epicure, nibbling before a feast that turns his stomach, picking at morsels like FIDLER and MENZIES, and leaving untouched the great "piece of resistance" that ought to be devoured.

A public meeting has appointed a committee to arrange a testimonial to Lord DUDLEY STUART. He had already pointed out the nature of such a monument in the constantly-expressed wish that he could either build an asylum for the blind, or add a wing to the present building. The memorialists, in their preliminary conferences, spoke long and loud of the "virtues" of Lord DUDLEY: we have never heard him held up as a model man; but, as usual, the proceeding as a whole is wiser than the details into which oratorical eulogists will venture. Lord DUDLEY STUART was not remarkable in any way, except in the persevering effort to endow patriotism with the liberal spirit of sympathy for other nations, and to give to wishes a substantial effect in action. He was the "friend of Poland," and therefore of Italy and of Hungary; and the man whose generous and steadfast exertions render him the friend of nations, has in him a large amount of goodness, and does more for his kind than some who can turn a clever sentence and refute themselves when they have done it by one still cleverer, or by actions that belie their words. For most of us can be cleverer in studied phrases than we can in those actions on which we pledge our own property and life.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

PARLIAMENT resumed its work, after the Easter holidays, on Monday. The day being the same as that on which the Emperor of the French entered the metropolis, and the hour of assembling being about the time when the arrival of his Majesty was expected, it will not be wondered at that the attendance was very bare, that the interest excited was very slight, and that little business was done. Sufficient members arrived, however, to form "a House," both in the Lords and Commons.

CHARITABLE TRUSTS (1855) BILLS.

The LORD CHANCELLOR moved the second reading of this bill. He said the first object of the bill would be to increase the powers of the Charitable Commissioners, so as to enable them to do more good than was possible hitherto. A charge had been brought against the commissioners that they had done very little good: the fact, however, was, that they had done a great deal; but they required further powers, which it was the object of this bill to confer. Within the last year, about 1100 applications had been made to the board by parties connected with charities, and the important functions of the board were to advise the trustees and others connected with charities. If such parties acted upon the advice given them, they would be indemnified.—Lord Sr. LEONARDS said the alterations in the bill had been considered with unusual care, and he had no doubt they were perfectly correct; still they would require consideration; and therefore he would vote for the second reading, upon the understanding that the bill should be referred to a select committee.—This was agreed to, and the bill was read a second time.

METROPOLITAN LOCAL MANAGEMENT BILL.

On Sir BENJAMIN HALL moving the second reading of this bill, Mr. MACKINNON opposed it, on the ground that it would give too much power to vestries.—Mr. W. WILLIAMS thought that a great amount of confusion would arise amongst the thirty-six districts into which the metropolis is to be divided. With respect to the sewerage, he thought it better to confide its management to a central board, throwing the expense as far as possible on the landlords. He would not, however, offer any opposition to the second reading of a bill which contained so much that is valuable, and for which the House and the country should feel indebted to Sir Benjamin Hall.—Mr. PELLATT, conceiving that the bill had a centralising tendency, proposed that it should be referred to a select committee; but this suggestion was declined by Sir BENJAMIN HALL.—Mr. DUNCOMBE offered to support the bill if the provisions of Hobbhouse's Act were extended to all the metropolitan parishes, without which, the act would be very despot.—Mr. BUTLER, Mr. BRADY, and Sir DE LACY EVANS, spoke in favour of the measure; and Sir GEORGE GREY, in answer to Mr. LABOUCHERE, said it was the intention of the Government this session to introduce a bill for the improvement of the City. The debate, which was of a very slight and desultory character, concluded with the second reading of the bill, which was ordered to be committed on the 30th inst.

SUPPLY.

On the House going into Committee of Supply, Mr. WILLIAMS protested against the sum of 135,162l. for public gardens and royal palaces. Hampton Court, he said, was kept up solely for the sake of the pauper members of the aristocracy; and he denounced the payment of 1665l. for the repair of the Duke of Cambridge's apartments in St. James's Palace, considering the immense income which his Royal Highness draws from the country. He thought it would not be right to attempt to pass these estimates on the present occasion, when the House was of course very thinly attended. As he could not move that they should be referred to a select committee, he would move that the chairman should report progress. Mr. WILSON said, that as late as 1848 a select committee had sat on these estimates, and made an elaborate report on them. He hoped, therefore, that Mr. Williams would not persevere in his motion, as the session would elapse before they could have a report from another select committee.—Mr. SPOONER and Mr. MACARTNEY contended that the estimates should have been printed earlier, and that it would be unfair to press them now. In reply to a question from Sir H. WILLOUGHBY, Sir W. MOLESWORTH said that the total cost of the Houses of Parliament, up to the present time, was about 1,690,000l., to which would be added about 190,000l. for the completion of the works already sanctioned by Parliament. To complete the whole of the plans of Sir Charles Barry there would be required 650,000l., making in the whole, in round numbers, 2,500,000l. Several votes were then agreed to.

CHURCH RATES.

Earl GREY, on Tuesday, presented several petitions praying for the abolition of church rates. He remarked, however, that he did not look upon church rates as a hardship now that it had been decided that a minority could not make a rate. A conversation

then ensued between the Bishop of Exeter and the LORD CHANCELLOR, in the course of which the latter observed that there is no power to oblige vestries to maintain the church, though it is their duty to do so; to which the former replied, that excommunication still remains in force.—In the House of Commons, on the same night, Sir GEORGE GREY said it was not the intention of the Government to introduce a bill on the subject of church rates, leave having been given to a private member to do so.

INCOME TAX OF OFFICERS.

Mr. PEEL, in answer to Colonel NORTH, said that no deductions would be made, on account of income tax, from the amount awarded as gratuity for wounds received by officers in the Crimea.

RETURN OF LORD JOHN RUSSELL.

Sir GEORGE GREY, in answer to Sir J. PAKINGTON, said he expected Lord John Russell would be in England by the 27th or 28th inst. at latest.

ARMY AND NAVY MEDICAL DEPARTMENTS.

Colonel BOLDERO moved for a select committee to inquire into the state of the medical departments of each of the two services. The colonel dwelt at considerable length on the great deficiencies of the hospital accommodation, the shortcomings of the commissariat department, and the ineffective manner in which medicines and medical comforts had been supplied to those who needed them. He quoted largely from the evidence taken by the Sebastopol Committee to prove the necessity of an inquiry. He directed particular attention to the low qualifications of naval assistant-surgeons, and contended that the service sustained deep injury from that circumstance.—Sir JOHN TROLLOPE, in seconding the motion, objected to the immense power which is placed in the medical department of the army, and said that Dr. Andrew Smith had rudely rejected the services of Dr. John Davy, though they had been offered gratuitously.—Mr. BRADY observed that the Admiralty is now employing perfectly incompetent young men as surgeons; and he charged Admiral Berkeley with causing this state of things, by removing all inducements for good medical officers to remain in the service.—Admiral BERKELEY indignantly denied these accusations, and asserted that the navy requires a higher qualification for surgeons than the army. There is now, he said, one-third more medical assistants in the navy than during the last war.—Colonel NORTH, Mr. E. ELLIS, Mr. MUNZ, Mr. M. CHAMBERS, and Admiral PECHELL, spoke in favour of inquiry; but Mr. F. PEEL, on the part of the Government, said that, as the Sebastopol Committee was even now inquiring into the subject, it would be extremely inconvenient to have another Committee appointed for the same purpose. The Government were taking steps to reorganise the medical department of the army. With regard to Dr. Andrew Smith possessing too despotic a power, he said it must be recollected that that gentleman was in many respects greatly trammelled. Upon a question of expense, the doctor was obliged to go to the War Office; on that of promotion, he was obliged to go to the Horse Guards; if it were a question of supplies, he was compelled to go to the Ordnance department; and if one relating to the transport of stores, he was forced to go to the Admiralty. Dr. A. Smith was thus greatly impeded in the discharge of his duties. The remedy for all this was the concentration of all the authorities which regulated the army. This had already been effected by the creation of the office of another Secretary of State. That Minister had power over the various offices alluded to not hitherto possessed by any one department. Mr. Peel, therefore, hoped that all the evils which had been so much complained of were in the course of removal. It was the intention of the Government to employ a civilian in conjunction with the medical head of the army, which was the real cause of the resignation of Dr. Smith, who did not wish to share that power which he had so long held undivided.—Colonel BOLDERO still pressed his motion, and upon a division there appeared—For, 6; against, 73. This bare majority of 4 elicited loud cheers.

SUNDAY TRADING.

Lord ROBERT GROSVENOR brought in his bill upon this subject. It was read a first time, and the debate was postponed till the second reading.

EDUCATION OF PAUPER CHILDREN.

Mr. E. DENISON rose to move for leave to introduce a bill to provide for the education of the children of poor persons in the receipt of in-door relief. His bill was not so much a new measure as a supplementary measure to other bills which had already been proposed to the House. He had been urged to persevere with his bill by the introducers of the other bills. The object of his bill was to enable education to be given to poor children, but not as a condition of relief to the parents, and not making it compulsory on children to attend any particular kind of school. He should have been glad to introduce a clause to make a portion of the expense fall upon the Consolidated Fund; but on a communication with the Chancellor of the Exchequer he was informed that the state of

the public funds prevented such a clause from receiving countenance. He trusted that, at a more favourable time, this part of his plan would receive consideration. The bill was then read a first time, and ordered to be printed.

The Convention with Sardinia Bill was read a third time, and passed.

INTESTACY (SCOTLAND) BILL.

On the motion of Mr. DUNLOP, this bill, the object of which is to assimilate the law of Scotland to that of England, in most respects, was read a second time.

THE COAST FISHERIES (IRELAND) BILL.

Mr. McMAHON moved the second reading of this bill, the object of which was to assimilate the fishery laws of Ireland to those of England. The state of the law in Ireland is so absurd, that totally different laws apply to the east and the west coasts of Ireland. The fisheries, owing to the restrictions upon them, are in a state of decay. The number of fishermen employed since 1848 fell from 70,000 to 38,000 in 1863, and the boats have been diminished one-half. Mr. NAPIER thought the subject one of the greatest importance, but he objected to the bill, as calculated to interfere most mischievously with vested interests, and to interfere also with the success of the salmon fishery of Ireland, which was now becoming successful. Instead of assimilating the law of Ireland to that of England in this matter, they should, if they legislated at all, do the very reverse. He (Mr. Napier) would consequently move an amendment, that the bill be read the second time that day six months. Mr. DEFFEY and Mr. Sergeant SHEE supported the bill; and Mr. M. CHAMBERS said that the present law prohibits the Irish from fishing in their own waters. Mr. GEORGE and Mr. WHITESIDE opposed the measure; the latter observing that the existing law protects the interests of the fishermen against poachers, and keeps the supply of fish to their great advantage. On a division, the bill was lost by a majority of 126. Mr. McMAHON then withdrew the companion measure touching the Irish Inland Fisheries, observing that he would reintroduce it, together with the previous question, at a future time.

TRADE IMPROVEMENTS' COMPENSATION (IRELAND) BILL.

On the order for the second reading of this bill, Mr. Sergeant SMITH, owing to the lateness of the hour, proposed that either the bill should be read a second time *sub silentio*, deferring the discussion until the committee, or that a Government night should be given for the debate on the second reading. The discussion of this preliminary question continued until the time to which the Wednesday sittings are restricted had expired, when, after the expenditure of an hour and a half, it was left undecided.

On the motion of Mr. STAFFORD, seconded by Mr. FRANKS, it was then agreed that the House at its rising should adjourn until Friday, in consequence of the visit of the Emperor of the French to the City on Thursday.

THE SEBASTOPOL COMMITTEE.

TUESDAY.

THE Committee resumed its inquiries on Tuesday, when Mr. Maxwell, one of the commission appointed to investigate the medical administration of the army, was recalled, and said:—Soon after the arrival of the commission, they received a letter from the Adjutant-General, written by the direction of Lord Raglan, complaining that certain inquiries had not been submitted to his lordship's approval; and in consequence of this, a divisional order was issued to the effect that officers and servants should not give any information as to hospital arrangements, except under the authority of the Commander-in-Chief; and so far the authority of the commission was overruled by the Commander-in-Chief. But he did not know that he was to infer from this that the Commander-in-Chief was responsible for the whole medical administration of the army, and management of the hospital. He requested Major Buller to represent this to Lord Raglan, who afterwards sent a letter to the commission, expressing his regret that any impediment had taken place. The witness then added particulars as to the wretched state of the regimental hospitals and tents, and the want of medicines and fuel. He said, however, that the supply of surgeons was ample, and that the condition of the hospital at Balaklava, though overcrowded, was better than they had a right to expect.

Captain Horsford, in command of the Rifle Brigade, said that his division was badly off for clothing, but he thought the men in the hospital tents were comfortable. Mr. Harcourt, his commissary, did his duty well.

Sir Charles Trevelyan, assistant-secretary to the Treasury, was next examined. He entered into a variety of details with respect to the instructions, &c., given to the commissariat before leaving England. Mr. Filder, he said, was appointed commissary general, with a staff of forty officers, which was considered efficient. Upon Mr. LAYARD inquiring if forty officers could be sufficient for 10,000 men (the number first sent), the witness said that subordinates were to be obtained in

the East, and that a few storekeepers and book-keepers were also sent out. Mr. Commissary Smith made most extensive preparations, entered into contracts for the supply of the troops at Gallipoli, secured a storehouse on the Dardanelles, and acquired a great body of necessary information. Mr. Filder arrived at Constantinople on the 22nd April. That gentleman was sixty-four years of age; but though so far advanced in life, the Government considered him an efficient servant. He had been with the army during the whole of the Peninsular war, and had subsequently been a commissariat officer at several important military stations abroad. The War Department deliberately selected him to accompany the army to the East, as being their best commissariat officer, and in consideration of his tried and approved services. There was one assistant-commissary general with each division of the army, and a deputy-assistant and an experienced commissariat clerk to each brigade of infantry. On the 31st of March, the whole commissariat force amounted to forty-four persons, and it was increased to forty-nine on the 5th of June, when the army was at Varna. This number, however, did not include subordinates, whom Mr. Filder had full power to engage on the spot. Before Mr. Filder left Constantinople, and before the army went to Varna, he sent to Malta for 200 mule carts; he also sent home directions to the authorities to obtain 500 mules in Spain; he procured 300 mules at Malta; and all the mules that could be had at Smyrna he obtained there. Mr. Filder reckoned that 3000 arabas of the country, and 5000 mules would be necessary, as a transport service for the army when in Bulgaria, then consisting of 25,000 men. Among other arrangements, Mr. Filder entered into a large contract for hay with a house at Constantinople, but that contract for the most part failed. In September, he wrote home to the Treasury, stating that there was likely to be a deficiency of forage. The witness then explained that the Commissariat required a ration return to be made once in three days. If bread, for instance, was wanted, the requisition would have to be signed by the commissariat officer and the paymaster before it could be got; and if the requisite form was not to be had on such an emergency, it would place the commissariat officers in a very painful predicament. After the army went to the Crimea, complaints were received as to the inconvenience arising from these forms. With regard to the roasted coffee, the witness said that coffee was given to the troops unroasted during the Kaffir war and other campaigns. It had, in fact, been customary to issue coffee to troops in the field in that state; it was also done in the French service; and the Treasury, therefore, sent out the greater part of the coffee unroasted, but they also sent out a part of it roasted as an experiment. The reason they sent the larger portion unroasted was, that experience had taught them it would lose its flavour and become in a great measure useless if roasted.

WEDNESDAY.

Sir Charles Trevelyan was recalled. His evidence related chiefly to the early official correspondence that transpired on various transactions between the Treasury, Admiralty, and Commissariat; and tendency of his assertions was to show that Mr. Commissary-General Filder had done his utmost to procure means of transport, and that at the time the army landed in the Crimea, the transport service was quite sufficient for all purposes. It would seem, however, that subsequently Mr. Filder intimated that he was far from having a transport service such as he could wish. The accommodation in the transports for the conveyance of animals was very small; but in little more than a fortnight Mr. Filder imported into the Crimea 216 carts, and Spanish and Maltese mules, and 266 pack animals, in addition to those which were already there. When it became evident that the army would winter in the Crimea, the Commissary-General, becoming alarmed, wrote home for an immediate reinforcement of supplies. The Treasury thereupon wrote to the Admiralty, directing them to send out one million pounds of biscuit and 400,000 tons of hay fortnightly, and, as a matter of precaution, six months' supply of hay and oats; and on this immense supply the commissariat had been working up to the present time. The horses perished far more from overwork and exposure to the weather than from want of food. He would not say that they were amply supplied with food; but they had considerable quantities of chopped straw. The witness said that Mr. Filder wrote to the Admiralty for an extra supply of biscuit; and that he "presumed" it was sent out. He also stated that the Commissary-General was very uneasy owing to the crowded state of the harbour and the wretched condition of the roads. Six steamers were sent to the Black Sea for the use of the commissariat; but the orders of Admiral Boxer had seriously interfered with the successful working of the arrangement. He did not mean to say that the Admiral purposely interfered with it. Mr. Filder, however, constantly complained that Constantinople was the Caput of the army, and that when he sent vessels there for stores he never could get them back again without great delay. The detention of the Jason at Constantinople was a striking instance in point. Mr. Filder made urgent representations to Admiral Boxer as to the delay of that ship. No official investigation was ever made into the causes of her detention; but Lord Raglan, on a complaint being made to him by Mr. Filder, wrote a courteous

letter to Admiral Boxer on the matter. He might take that opportunity to say of Admiral Boxer that he was a rough, honest, hearty, zealous, active sailor; but the situation in which he was placed at Constantinople required high administrative powers, and it was no blame to Admiral Boxer that he did not possess those qualifications. Mr. Filder made complaints, both to Lord Raglan and the Duke of Newcastle respecting the want of suitable magazines for the stores. The Commissariat was also greatly perplexed by the want of horses, owing to their deaths, and to the fact of the private soldiers stealing them whenever they could. The witness having made an allusion to the railway and the newly-organised transport corps, Mr. Drummond pertinently asked, "But why were those things not done in December last? They would then have saved the lives of 20,000 men." Regarding the green coffee question, Sir Charles Trevelyan said—No doubt it was the duty of the commissariat to provide the men with the means of roasting the green coffee, and it would have been an easy matter to have got three or four regular coffee grinders and roasters; but the commissariat were completely overtasked, and were barely able to supply the food for the men. In answer to Mr. Ellies, the witness admitted that his experience had satisfied him that the time had arrived when the different branches of our military system ought to be completely consolidated.

On Thursday, no business was transacted, owing to there not being a sufficient number of members present.

FRIDAY.

Sir Charles Trevelyan was still further examined, and said, with regard to the supply of fuel, that when it was known that the army would have to winter in the Crimea, the duty of providing a supply of fuel was undertaken by the Commissariat. Mr. Commissary-General Filder consequently adopted the proper steps for procuring a supply of fuel, including charcoal. The latter was placed in a dépôt at Balaklava; but it could not be conveyed to the camp in consequence of the defective transport service. This, combined with the bad state of the weather and the roads, prevented the conveyance of hay and straw; but he had been informed that there was no want of either of those articles at Balaklava from the 21st to the 30th November. The mules which were purchased in Spain were detained not so much on account of the defective transport corps, but because Mr. Filder had no urgent necessity for them. The great difficulty connected with the army was the want of a Commissariat establishment at home; but he thought that the great division and subdivision of duty in that department in the field interfered with the discipline of the army. He (witness) had the executive management of this department at home under the direction of the Minister for War.

The witness was next examined relative to the alleged incompetency of the Treasury clerks who were sent out to do duty as commissary officers; on which point he denied the truth of the statement made by General Sir De Lacy Evans, that they had had no field experience. Returning to the subject of the commissariat arrangements, he said that there was a dépôt for live cattle at Constantinople, and therefore the want of fresh meat in the camp was to be attributed, not to the commissariat, but to those who had the management of the sea transport. Some of the difficulties which were described to have existed, he ascribed to the fact that the official relationship between Lord Raglan and Mr. Filder was not so close as that which generally subsisted between the Duke of Wellington and his chief commissaries. This he inferred from the tenour of a letter from Lord Raglan to Mr. Filder, inquiring what provision the latter had made for the army.

On the conclusion of the examination of this witness, the committee adjourned till Monday.

THE WAR.

THE BOMBARDMENT HAS RECOMMENCED! That is, emphatically, the war news of the week.

A despatch from General Canrobert, received in Paris on Tuesday, says that all the French and English batteries opened fire on Sebastopol on the 9th inst., and that the advantage was on the part of the Allies. At Berlin, a despatch has been received from St. Petersburg, stating that Prince Gortschakoff announces the same fact, and says that the cannonade, which commenced at five o'clock in the morning, was carried on during the night, and repeated on the 10th. The Russian general adds that his men replied with success, causing appreciable losses to the Allies; but he admits that on his side there were 833 killed and wounded. A despatch of the 12th from Kamiesch is said to have been received in Paris, stating that a breach has been opened, and that the town is greatly damaged. The *Press* says that three Russian batteries have been dismounted, and that Omar Pacha has landed at Kamiesch with 15,000 men to assist in the assault. These statements, however, must be received with caution.

This, perhaps, is news enough for one week: at any rate, there is little else of importance. The Malakhoff and Mamelon continue to be great annoyances to us, and the Russians still occupy their posi-



7th instant, the operations of the siege have been continued, without any material interruption from the enemy beyond occasional shots from guns and mortars, and the more constant firing of musketry from rifle-pits, which have occasioned, I regret to say, the casualties which your Lordship will see in the returns I enclose.

"Captain A. E. Hill, of the 89th Regiment, whom I mentioned in my despatch, No. 222, as having been severely wounded and taken prisoner, died, I regret to say, of his wounds, before he reached the Russian ambulance, as I learnt last night from General Osten-Sacken, to whom I had written for information on the subject.

"He had gone forward with a view to place the sentries in front of our advanced works, as I stated to your Lordship on Tuesday, and he, unfortunately, mistook a Russian for a French picquet, and, having challenged it in French, he was immediately fired upon, and brought to the ground.

"Early yesterday morning a fire was observed in the town of Sebastopol, which raged with violence for a considerable time, but how it originated I have not been able to ascertain.

"The enemy has made no movement on the side of the Tchernaya.

"The railway continues to progress in the most satisfactory manner, and last night had nearly reached the top of the hill, usually called the Col de Balaklava, and advantage has been taken to bring up large quantities of ammunition and stores.

"I have, &c.,

"RAGLAN.

"The Lord Panmure, &c., &c."

WAR MISCELLANEA.

RUSSIAN MILITARY MOVEMENTS.—A letter from Czarow of the 8th says:—"General Panintine has been summoned to Warsaw from his head-quarters at Lublin, in order to come to an understanding with Prince Paskewitch, probably as to the movement of the troops, which for some months past have not left their winter quarters. General Rejtern, who commands the first division in the government of Kielce, has arrived at Warsaw. The Emperor has renewed all the orders which had been given in the month of February, last year, relative to the Baltic and to that coast. The landmarks on the coasts of the Gulfs of Bothnia, Finland, and Revel, are to be immediately removed, and the light-houses have been all extinguished. Another regiment of Greeks, armed and commanded by the Greek Lieut.-Colonel Papa Aphaniopulo, is expected at Odessa on its way to the Crimea, to reinforce the body of Greek volunteers, formerly under the command of Chrisoveri and Stamatii, but now under the former only, as Stamatii has died at Simpheropol of the wounds which he received before Eupatoria.

DR. ROBERT D. LYONS, of Dublin, son of Sir William Lyons, of Cork, has been appointed to investigate the pathology of the diseases which prevail in the army of the Crimea, and has set out for Scutari to enter upon his duties. The appointment, an unsolicited one, was made by Sir James Clarke.

THE HOSPITALS AT SCUTARI.—The *Times* correspondent says that a marked change for the better has taken place in the condition of the military hospitals. There is a decrease in the number of sick, a diminution in the rate of deaths, and a larger band of convalescents draughted off to their regiments. "There are now in the Bosphorus establishments altogether about 3300 men upon the sick list; and the average mortality has dropped to less than a half per cent. *per diem*; and there have been lately carried out, or are now in actual progress, a variety of measures tending to convert this more favourable state of the register from an exception into a rule." The same writer calls attention to the wretched state of the Merchant-seamen Hospital.

THE SMYRNA HOSPITAL.—The condition of the patients here continues satisfactory, though several of the nurses are suffering from fever. There are several pleasant walks by the sea-side or in the cemeteries (says a writer on the spot); but it is unsafe to wander far from the town. The robbers, who gave such trouble a short time ago, are again on the hills to the south, quite close to the walls, waiting for a lucrative capture. They seize the wandering pedestrian or horseman, and have been known to exact as ransom as much as 2500l., under threat of immediate execution. The usual demand is about 700l. The police are as bad as the robbers; and the boatmen are no very reputable set. They recently robbed and violated a French lady.

THE MILITARY HOSPITALS.—Several official letters from the Duke of Newcastle, Lord Clarendon, Lord Stratford de Redcliffe, and Dr. Menzies, having reference to the condition of the military hospitals at Constantinople during the months of October and November last, have been published. From these we learn that in the early part of October these hospitals were very ill supplied with bedsteads, mattresses, and many other requisites; that the Duke of Newcastle in consequence wrote to Lord Clarendon, requesting that he would instruct Lord de Redcliffe to endeavour to procure the articles required; that instructions to that effect were sent out; that Dr. Menzies wrote to Lord Stratford de Redcliffe on Oct. 26th, saying that there was no want of medicines,

but that such things as bedding, tables, chairs, stoves, &c., were needed; that the Turkish authorities were communicated with on this point; and that our ambassador at Constantinople wrote to Lord Clarendon on the 15th of November, expressing his belief that a great improvement was then in operation, and that, "although there might be a temporary renewal of difficulties in case of another battle attended with severe consequences, the sick and wounded might reckon upon the enjoyment of every aid and relief."—On this subject, Mr. Sidney Godolphin Osborne has written to the *Times*, stating, in contradiction to Dr. Menzies, that at the end of October there was great want of more serious things than tables, chairs, &c., for that even the commonest necessities were absent.

THE SEA OF AZOF.—In answer to the "Hertfordshire Incumbent," whose letter we noticed last week, a correspondent of the *Times*, "G. N. D.," who has travelled in and around the Sea of Azof, asserts that, as long as the isthmus of Perekop remains open, the Russians will not care for so round-about a way of getting re-inforcements as the one indicated. When we have closed the isthmus, he says, it will be time to think of the other route.

THE FRENCH ARMY.—According to the *Moniteur*, recruits are pouring in at a great rate, and the young men are animated with the most enthusiastic spirit, and present a very fine physical appearance. From another source we learn that a youth belonging to a family of note has resigned an excellent place in one of the ministerial offices in order to enter the ranks, but on condition that he should be sent to the Crimea.

THE ENGLISH PRISONERS IN RUSSIA.—Some letters from English residents in Russia have been published, stating that the English prisoners are suffering great hardships, and that those few of our countrymen who are now living in Russia are unable to get up sufficient subscriptions to relieve them.

CAPTAIN CHRISTIE, of the transport service, has been superseded by Captain Heath.

MAJOR-GENERAL SCARLETT, commanding the Cavalry Division, has left for England on account of the serious illness of his wife. His place will be taken by Lord G. Paget.

THE INQUIRY BY GENERAL SIMPSON into the state of the army during the winter is still proceeding on board the Gottenburgh at Balaklava, and several most important witnesses have been examined. This inquiry, made on the spot, will in one day collect more real facts against our military administration than the House of Commons Committee in the course of a month.—*Morning Herald*.

PROVISION DEPÔTS are in course of being established along the coast of Asia Minor, for the regular supply of fresh meat and vegetables; and General Filder is also about to establish most extensive depôts in Wallachia, on the banks of the Danube.—*Idem*.

THE OLD AND WORTHLESS FUZES.—We have, I am told, fuzes made in 1798 and 1804; but, old as these are, they are better than the fuzes of 1853 and 1854.—*Times Correspondent*.

EUPATORIA.—Accounts from Eupatoria mention that great cruelties are committed by the bashi-bazouks on the wounded Russians. The fortifications progress. Skirmishes occasionally happen, and the Russians have burnt some villages. In consequence of the arrival of a French steamer from Kamiesch, bringing despatches for Omar Pacha, several of the Turkish regiments received orders to hold themselves in readiness to depart. It is thought they are destined to assist in the bombardment of Sebastopol.

A BOY IN ONE OF OUR LONDON RAGGED SCHOOLS, having shown a great taste for acquiring languages, has been sent out as an interpreter to Balaklava, and now often dines with Lord Raglan.

THE SORTIE OF THE 22ND.—Prince Gortschakoff, in his account of this affair, says the Russians had 379 men killed, and 982 wounded; and eight officers killed, and twenty-one wounded.

A FEMALE RUSSIAN SPY.—A young woman, who for some days was seen loitering about the French trenches, has fallen into the hands of our allies. She was provided with a paper, in which she had made notes with respect to the state of the French batteries, the number of the men employed, &c.; and a communication addressed to Prince Menschikoff was found on her. At least, such is the story as related in a letter from Kamiesch; but there is a certain air of romantic improbability about it.

STRATEGICAL MOVEMENTS OF THE FRENCH.—The Vienna correspondent of the *Times* says:—"The last move made by Louis Napoleon is a most masterly one. He concentrates an army of 40,000 men at Maslak, near Constantinople, and by so doing gives check to the Austrians in the Principality, and disturbs the Russian army north of Sebastopol in its operations. The latter cannot be certain that the French will not suddenly be landed in their rear; and the former must always fear that a French corps will sooner or later appear in Wallachia and Moldavia."

THE SARDINIAN CONTINGENT.—The review of these troops, and the benediction of their colours, took place on the Plain of Marengo, about a mile to the eastward of Alexandria, on the 14th of April. The King was present; but his speech was read by the Minister-of-War.

THE RAVAGES OF THE SMALL-POX in the fleet have not decreased. The *St. Jean d'Acre* has been obliged to go into quarantine, and has landed her crew near Kamiesch, with many cases of the malady among them. Several men-of-war have put to sea to cruise for a time.

THE "MONITEUR" ON THE WAR.

The *Moniteur* of Monday contains the promised second article on the subject of the war and the negotiations. The discussion this time is confined to the political aspects of the question, and traces the history of the struggle from Russia's original demand with respect to the Holy Places, up to the present Conferences at Vienna. Russia, it is asserted, only made the religious part of the dispute a mask to cover her real design, which was purely political, and aimed at the domination of the Bosphorus. France and England, in burning the Turkish fleet at Navarino in 1828, committed a grave error, since they "destroyed the force which protected the West." At all times, Europe seems to have shut its eyes to "the invasion of the North," though, "as far back as 1805, a fleet left Sebastopol with 12,000 men on board, landed them in Italy, and brought the Russians and French in contact in the Mediterranean." When, in 1812, France and Austria united, the Emperor Alexander gave the following instructions to Admiral Tichakoff, as the admiral himself reveals in his Memoirs:—

"The astute conduct of Austria, which has just allied itself with France, obliges Russia to employ every means in its power to disconcert the hostile intentions of those two Powers. The most important is to turn to our account the military genius of the Slavonic nations, as Servia, Bosnia, Dalmatia, Montenegro, Croatia, and Illyria, who, once armed and under military organisation, would co-operate powerfully with our operations. The Hungarians, dissatisfied with the proceedings of their actual Government, offer to us also an excellent means for alarming Austria, for making a diversion to her hostile ideas, and, consequently, for weakening her resources. All these tribes united to our regular troops would form a very imposing militia, not only to provide against the hostile intentions of Austria, but to effect a marked diversion upon the right wing of the French possessions, and to give us a sure means of striking a blow in the direction of Nissa or Sophia."

The people of the Tyrol and Switzerland were also to be incited to rebellion, and the Slavonic races were to be flattered by the promise of a Slavonic kingdom. From these facts, the *Moniteur* derives its arguments in favour of the justice and necessity of the war. With respect to the negotiations, the writer defends the resort to them after this fashion:—

"There was but one of two things possible: the negotiations would succeed or would fail. If successful, Europe, by the four guarantees, obtained conditions which, four months previously, Count Nesselrode declared he could only accept after ten years of disastrous warfare; if a failure, Austria, whose alliance became an offensive one, entered into armed action, and the weight of her sword would soon obtain by war what her influence could not effect in the Conferences. Thus, in either case, it was well to negotiate at Vienna, while continuing all the same to fight in the Crimea."

Reviewing the motives and objects of the Four Points, the *Moniteur* remarks, with regard to the demand for the dismantling of Sebastopol:—

"An argument is brought against this pretension which we do not think serious. It is said to the Allied Powers, 'You ask a concession from Russia, which at most might be the price of the surrender of Sebastopol, and that place is still held by the Russian army.' Our reply is this:—'It is true that we have not yet taken Sebastopol; but what is Sebastopol at the present moment to Russia? It is no longer a naval port, as her fleet, sunk at the mouth of the harbour, or shut up behind that insurpassable barrier, is withdrawn from the struggle. The Black Sea is the battle-field which we have won—or, if they like it, which has been abandoned to us by the enemy. The Russian flag could not show itself there. Our ships, with those of England and Turkey, navigate it in every sense. Its domination has changed hands. It has gone from Sebastopol to Constantinople.'

What can Russia do? Could she suffer for any length of time, without detriment to her moral strength and without ruin to her commerce, the blockade which will shut her up in every part of the Black Sea and in the Baltic? Could she live in that paralysis which in her strikes the vital principle of nations—that is to say, movement, action, the right of exporting and exchanging her produce, and which would condemn her to isolation, sterility, impotency, in the immensity of her empire? To ask Russia to limit her naval forces, or neutralize the Black Sea—that is to say, to exclude therefrom all vessels of war of any nation whatsoever—is, therefore, to exact from her much less than what we have acquired by war, and which we could maintain without an effort. In fact, what does it require to prevent Russia from ever entering the Black Sea again? Four men-of-war

of each of the maritime powers, France, England and Turkey. Such a cruising squadron would suffice to occupy the Black Sea, and to transplant its domination from the shores of the Crimea to the entrance of the Bosphorus."

THE VIENNA CONFERENCES.

ANOTHER week has past; and yet we have no certain information with respect to the doings of the Conference at Vienna. Last Saturday, the *Times* startled its readers, and disarranged the money market, by a telegraphic message to the effect that there was a serious difference between the Allies and Austria; but although this turns out not to be the case, the assertion that Austria will not go the same length as England and France, and refuses to be a party to the destruction of Sebastopol, has reappeared so prominently this week, and has been repeated through so many channels, that a feeling of uneasiness has been engendered. It is added by some that England and France are inclined to waver in their demands. However, we have heard this before without any confirmation following; and it may prove a baseless rumour. In the meanwhile, Sir George Grey announces in the House of Commons the return of Lord John on the 27th or 28th; Russia fences, but will not yield on the Third Point; and the end of the Conferences would seem to be at hand.

Russia, it is said, has offered a counter proposition, namely, that the Euxine be reconstituted a closed sea, the Czar and the Sultan maintaining an equal number of ships therein. A report current at Berlin says that Russia, while refusing to accede to the Third Point, has offered to pledge herself, by a separate treaty with Austria on the first two Points; but that the Cabinet of Vienna has positively rejected the proposition. The *Oest Deutsch Post*, however, thinks that the counter propositions of Russia will be of a nature to be accepted; and the *Débats* astounds the world by the suggestion that, after all, no ultimatum has been offered by the Allies. But all these rumours must be very jealously received.

We have intelligence of the arrival at Vienna of the Turkish Minister of Foreign Affairs, and of his reception by the Emperor. The following passage from a letter from Constantinople of the 29th ult., in the *Courier de Marseille*, publishes what are alleged to be his instructions:—

"A grand council was held here the day before yesterday, at the residence of Rifaat Pacha, in order to decide on the instructions to be given to Ali Pacha. The French, English, and Austrian Ambassadors were present. The following are the principal points which were decided on, particularly as concerns Turkey:—1. The Sultan does not admit, under any pretence, or under any form, the protectorate powers, neither will the Porte consent, unless compelled so to do, to the common protectorate of the Danubian provinces.—2. Turkey is ready to abandon her claim to an indemnity for the expenses of the war, if that point should be an obstacle to the conclusion of peace. In any other case she maintains her right to claim an indemnity.—3. Turkey is resolved not to give her consent to the establishment of a European arsenal, on any part whatever of her territory.—Such are the instructions given. On every question agitated, Ali Pacha is to refer to his Government, and the resolutions of Turkey will not become definite until they have been approved of by the Sultan. The embassy of Ali will be on a most princely scale. He has in his suite six secretaries, a numerous staff of officers and intendants, and eighteen servants."

THE IMPERIAL VISIT.

THE visit of the Emperor and Empress of the French has been the great event of the week; eclipsing Parliament, throwing the Crimea into the shade, completely extinguishing any interest, which might otherwise have lingered, in the stammering, mumbling "news" from Vienna, that will keep on chattering, though its talk may amount to nothing, and altogether throwing sober England into a state of holiday excitement. The columns of the daily newspapers during the past week suddenly became radiant with the record of purple velvet and gold, crimson satin and ditto, gilded mirrors, magnificent carpets, lace curtains, embroidery, marqueterie, &c., to say nothing of military pageants and stately processions, so that to read the morning journals was as good as seeing an Easter show piece. From these resplendent details, we proceed to make some selections.

THE PREPARATIONS.

Dover on Sunday presented a very animated appearance. A great number of visitors arrived from France; and several English ladies and gentlemen of high rank, besides those of humbler station, helped to fill the town, and give it a gay and unusual appearance. Sir Robert Peel arrived early, and shortly after went on board the *Black Eagle*, accompanied by his secretary, who unfortunately met with an accident in getting on board. Having slipped, he would have fallen into the water, but his

fall was arrested by the grasp of a sailor; who, however, saved his life at the expense of dislocating his shoulder. The Lord Warden Hotel, at which the Emperor and Empress rested on their arrival, was entirely remodelled and fitted up for the occasion. From Wednesday morning to Saturday morning was all the time allowed for this task; but it appears to have been admirably executed. We derive the following account of the decorations and arrangements from a contemporary:—

"Prince Albert's bedroom was on the right hand of the great western corridor, next the grand staircase, and was massively and handsomely furnished in mahogany and velvet. The whole suite of rooms right and left of the western corridor, from his royal highness's apartments to the sea front of the hotel, were appropriated to the different members of the suite. The three grand state rooms overlooking the sea, and forming the whole front of the hotel on that side, were entirely refurnished with a suite of richly-carved walnut, inlaid with marqueterie, and mounted with ormolu; the chairs, settees, lounges, and centre pieces being covered with crimson satin trimmed with gold. The first room entering from Prince Albert's side of the establishment was appropriated to his royal highness's own use, and was fitted as an elegant drawing-room. Next to it is the centre room of the suite, which was fitted as a saloon; and beyond is the drawing-room appropriated to the Emperor and Empress of the French. The tables in these rooms were of various elegant shapes—the writing-tables especially, which were covered with crimson morocco leather, elaborately gilt, while the greatest care was taken to match everything, even to the blotting books, which were identical with the tops of the various tables on which they lay. The rich velvet sofa, Axminster carpets, and table covers were also exact matches, and the lace curtains were of the richest embroidery. These three rooms were so arranged, that, the sliding doors being drawn together, each was a complete and detached chamber in itself. Next to the state rooms, on the right side of the east corridor, was the dressing-room of the Empress, which was superbly furnished *en suite* with the state rooms, with the addition of the toilet, which was shaped and covered with crimson satin overlaid with lace, the flounce being of pure Mechlin. The mirrors were richly gilt and elaborately carved. The Emperor's dressing-room was also *en suite*, the furniture being of fine carved walnut, with crimson satin coverings trimmed with gold."

At Windsor there was great stir and bustle through the whole of Saturday. Sixteen saddle horses for the use of the Emperor and Empress arrived. A company of Rifles, 160 rank and file of the Foot Guards (made up from what remains of the battalions of the three regiments), and seventy of the metropolitan police, took up their station in the town. Immediately after twelve o'clock on Sunday night, the workmen employed in the construction of the triumphal arches recommenced their labours; and the chief of these—that in Castle-street—has been thus described:—

"The structure was 40 feet wide and 50 feet high, divided into three parts, the centre arch being 35 feet high, and 20 feet wide. There was an arch on each side 14 feet high and 6 feet wide, for the accommodation of foot passengers. The panels were filled in with insignia of the Orders of the Garter and the Thistle. The upper portion was formed of wreath and scroll, supporting the Imperial Crown and Eagle of France, and was decorated with standards of England, France, Turkey, and Sardinia, the spaces being filled in with crescents. In the centre was a wreath and ribbon, with the word 'Welcome' written on the latter. The whole of the arch was decorated with variegated lamps and evergreens. The arch at the entrance to the Great Western Railway Station was smaller, but equally beautiful."

The luggage belonging to the Imperial visitors arrived by the South-Western Railway on Sunday evening, under the charge of two couriers. The packages occupied six of the Imperial vans, which were conveyed to the Castle by post-horses.

The directors of the Crystal Palace, in anticipation of the visit of Friday, caused a suite of reception rooms to be made. These rooms consisted of one large saloon, apartments for the suite, and dressing-rooms, furnished with every kind of toilette luxury, for the ladies. The decorations have been made in the style of the Renaissance period, with a great amount of gold and colour relieved by a dark chocolate ground.

THE ARRIVAL.

The proceedings of Monday commenced with the presentation, by the Mayor and Corporation of Dover, of an address to Prince Albert, expressive of the loyalty of the said Mayor and Corporation, the sorrow they felt at the existence of war, and the joy they felt at the approaching visit. Prince Albert having made a brief reply, echoing these sentiments, and thanking Messrs. the Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgesses for their address, there was a pause of anxious expectation. The weather was by no means favourable; for a thick fog crept over the Channel, and every moment waxed in density.

"The fleet of war steamers in the offing (says the

Times), the fine outlines of the chalk cliffs, the rocks and batteries, were all alike concealed in its misty folds. The danger of navigating the Channel, crowded with shipping, in such weather was, of course, obvious to every one, and fears began to be entertained that some change in the programme of the day's proceedings might be necessary. Speedily, however, it was ascertained that at half-past 9 o'clock the Imperial visitors had left Calais in the *Pelican*, screw-steamer, the sky being then quite clear. Then began from every pierhead a ringing of bells as indefatigable as if it had been Sunday, while at intervals from the batteries on shore and about the muffled boom of the signal guns. Meanwhile the approach from the landing-stage to the Lord Warden Hotel had been lined with detachments of the Royal Bucks Militia, the North Lincolnshire, and the Kent Mounted Rifles. The band of the first-mentioned corps occupied the top of the landing-stage itself, and in the course of the forenoon played with much spirit."

At 20 minutes past 11 o'clock, the royal suite broke forth, first from the fleet and then from the batteries on the heights. Prince Albert and his suite, together with Count Walewski and the secretaries of the Embassy, hastened down to the point of debarkation; and the public excitement was at fever height. Minute after minute passed, however, and the Imperial visitors did not arrive. It was then discovered that the fleet had fired the salute in mistake, upon seeing some ships passing through the Channel. Fears began to be entertained that some accident had befallen the expected vessel, the *Pelican*; but suddenly she appeared within a hundred yards of the landing-place, preceded on her way by the Empress mail packet, and carrying the English flag at the fore, the Imperial standard at the mainmast, and the tricolour on the staff at the poop. The bands immediately struck up "Partant pour la Syrie;" the Emperor and Prince saluted each other; the troops presented arms; and the crowds on shore and in the boats cheered loudly. The Empress wore the uniform of a General of Division; and the Empress was dressed in a tarta. The *Pelican* was at least an hour and a half behind time; and it appears that the voyage was not accomplished without serious peril.

"The Imperial yacht (says the *Times*) left Calais under the experienced charge of Captain Smith, a pilot, but had not advanced far when she became enveloped in the fog. Though preceded at two cables' length by the Empress mail packet, and progressing at less than half speed, she had a narrow escape of running ashore at the South Foreland, the high cliffs of which were happily distinguished in time to avoid the consequences. A fine corvette of the French navy, which accompanied them, had a still more narrow escape."

The *Austerlitz*, French line-of-battle ship, actually did run ashore off the South Foreland; but assistance was speedily sent, and she was towed off.

Having arrived at the Lord Warden Hotel, and partaken of lunch, the Emperor and Empress received the Mayor and Corporation of Dover. The address, read by the Recorder, set forth in the usual language the honour felt by the Corporation at the landing of their Majesties at Dover, and the hope which the citizens entertained that the visit would knit still closer the union between France and England. To this address, the Emperor replied, in a slightly foreign accent, but with great facility, as follows:—

"I am exceedingly grateful that your Queen has allowed me to find such an occasion to pay my respects to her and to show my sentiments of esteem and sympathy for the English people. I hope that the negotiations will be always united in peace and in war, for I am convinced that it will be for the welfare of the whole world and for their own prosperity. I am exceedingly grateful to you for the sentiments you have expressed towards myself and the Empress, and I hope you will be the interpreter of my sentiments and hers to your countrymen."

Their Majesties, accompanied by Prince Albert, then departed by train, and reached the Bricklayers Arms terminus by 5 o'clock, p.m. From there, the route to the terminus of the Great Western by through the Kent and Westminster-roads, over Westminster Bridge, through Parliament-street, Whitehall, Charing-cross, Pall-mall, St. James's-street, Piccadilly, Hyde Park, and by Victoria Gate and Eastbourne-terrace. Very few flags were to be seen along this line; but a large crowd of course collected, and the weather, which had now become bright, hot, and summer-like, added to the liveliness of the scene. The narrative from which we have already quoted thus proceeds:—

"Everywhere along the extended route the enthusiastic welcomes of the multitude greeted the Emperor. By the humbler inhabitants of the Borough and Lambeth he was received with even greater cordiality than by the wealthier classes of the community at the West-end; yet nowhere was there any lack of hearty good feeling and interest. The windows, the pavements, the balconies, the housetops, and every spot, in short, whence a commanding view could be obtained of the procession,

was all densely crowded. At every street-crossing and turning-point of the route, carriages, cabs, omnibuses, and vehicles of every description, were converted into temporary stands for spectators. The mighty traffic incessantly flowing through the main arteries of the metropolis paused in its course to see the Emperor and Empress pass by. They were seated with the Prince in an open barouche, which went at the head of the cortege; and as the pace maintained was not much beyond a walk, they were well seen by all. As they approached Westminster Bridge, a royal salute was fired from the guns which usually announce her Majesty's arrival to open or prorogue Parliament. At Charing-cross, where vast numbers of people were collected, there was some display of flags, and the effect at this point was further heightened by the band of the Royal Marines, who played 'Partant pour la Syrie' as the cortege passed the Admiralty. The scene presented by the clubs in Pall-mall was particularly animated; and among those who gazed upon his progress from the well-known haunts of former days, his Majesty no doubt distinguished many old familiar faces. In front of St. James's Palace, a guard of honour turned out and presented arms. St. James-street had the windows and balconies of all its houses filled with a large assemblage of ladies, whose curiosity and interest were no doubt strongly excited by the Empress, and who waved their handkerchiefs as she passed. When they passed King-street, the Emperor was observed to draw her attention to the house which he had occupied in former days; and in him at least the sight of this under such altered circumstances must have raised some strange emotions. It was 6 o'clock, an hour behind time, before they started for Windsor.

A large crowd assembled near the Castle at about 4 o'clock in the afternoon; and at 7 the Emperor, the Empress, and Prince Albert, made their appearance. The distance from the railway station to the Castle is so short, that the sight was come and gone in a few minutes; but the people cheered loudly, and seemed satisfied. In the evening the town was illuminated.

The Emperor and Empress alighted at the Grand Hall, where the Queen, accompanied by the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, the Duke of Cambridge, and the Prince of Leiningen, received them.

"The Yeomen of the Guard (says the *Court Circular*) lined the Grand Hall and Staircase under the command of Captain Macdonald, the Exon in Waiting. Viscount Sydney, the Captain, and Colonel Fitzmaurice, the Adjutant of the corps, also attended. The great officers of State and the Household (in levee dress), and the Ladies and Maids of Honour in Waiting, were in attendance with the Queen at the Grand Hall. Viscount Palmerston, First Lord of the Treasury, and the Earl of Clarendon, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, were also present. The Queen, taking the arm of the Emperor, and the Empress that of Prince Albert, followed by the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, the Duke of Cambridge, and the Prince of Leiningen, passed up the grand staircase, through the Music-room, into the Throne-room, where the younger members of the royal family were assembled, and subsequently proceeded to the Reception-room, where the ladies and gentlemen of the Household of the Queen and the Prince were presented to their Imperial Majesties."

A banquet in St. George's Hall followed, and concluded the day.

THE PREFECT OF THE SEINE AT THE MANSION-HOUSE.

The Prefect of the Seine, and other gentlemen connected with the municipality of Paris, having followed in the train of the Emperor, were entertained by the Lord Mayor on Monday at a dinner in the Egyptian Hall of the Mansion House. Amongst the company were the Consuls-general of France, Sardinia, and several other countries, Prince Gholab Mahmoud, Prince Ferozshah, the Lord Mayor of Dublin, and the chief members of the corporation of London. The "loving cup" having passed round, and the health of the Queen having been drunk, several complimentary speeches were made by the Lord Mayor, the Prefect of the Seine, and others. The Prefect, in acknowledging the drinking of his health, said he would speak in English, as he wished to say to the company, without the medium of an interpreter, but "heart to heart," how much he felt the reception the party had met with from the English population. M. Pelouze, in proposing "the Aldermen, Sheriffs, and Corporation of London," complimented the City on the new and magnificent streets that are now being, or have been, made, and said that the French are only just beginning to follow the English example.—The company separated about eleven o'clock.

THE ADDRESSES AND THE REVIEW AT WINDSOR.

About three o'clock on Tuesday, the Corporation of Windsor proceeded in nine carriages to the Castle, and presented a congratulatory address to the Emperor, to which he returned the following answer:—"Mr. Mayor, I am very much pleased with the statements contained in your address, and I trust that the alliance so happily formed will last for many, many

years. I thank you for the hearty reception I have met with in your town; but I am sure I cannot take it to myself so much as to the circumstance of my being the guest of your Queen. I was much gratified by what I witnessed last night in your town, and I beg that you will express to the inhabitants of Windsor how highly pleased I was with their kindness and attention."

Two other addresses were also presented—namely, one from the Commissioners of Lieutenancy of the City of London, and one from the merchants, bankers, and traders of London.

After the reception of these, a review of the household troops took place in the Great-park.

"The attendance of spectators (say the morning journals) was enormous, and their eagerness to catch a glimpse of the Emperor and Empress completely frustrated the attempts of the detachment of the 94th Regiment to keep the ground. The Emperor and Prince Albert, in field marshal's uniform, attended by a brilliant staff, and accompanied by her Majesty the Queen and the Empress of the French, with the royal children, visitors, and suite, in six open carriages, arrived at four o'clock. The line was formed by the following regiments:—Second Life Guards, Royal Horse Guards, the Carabiniers, and two troops of Horse Artillery. On the arrival of the royal cortege on the ground, they were received with a salute, the bands playing the 'National Anthem' and 'Partant pour la Syrie.' At the close of the review, the Emperor rode out to the front, and addressed Lord Cardigan, who commanded the whole of the troops, and expressed himself highly satisfied with the inspection. The charges were made with very great precision and compactness, and the firing of the artillery was very rapid indeed. The whole of the evolutions were performed in a very admirable manner. The review lasted for nearly two hours, and the royal and imperial party returned by the Long Walk about half-past six o'clock. The walk was densely thronged on both sides, and the cheers were vociferous and protracted."

In the evening, the Queen gave a banquet, and afterwards a ball.

THE KNIGHTING OF THE EMPEROR.

This chivalric ceremony is thus described in the *Court Circular*:—

"The Queen held a Chapter of the Order of the Garter at three o'clock on Wednesday afternoon in the Castle, for the purpose of investing his Imperial Majesty the Emperor of the French with the ensigns of this most noble Order. Her Majesty the Queen and his Royal Highness Prince Albert were conducted by the great officers of State to the Throne-room, followed by the Duke of Cambridge and the Prince of Leiningen. The Queen and their Royal and Serene Highnesses wore the purple velvet mantle, the crimson velvet hood, and the splendid collar of the Order. The Knights appeared in the mantle and collar of the Garter, and the officers wore their respective robes with their chains and badges. The Queen and the Knights of the Garter received his Imperial Majesty standing, and the Emperor, passing to the head of the table, took a seat in the chair of state on the right hand of her Majesty. The Queen announced to the Emperor of the French that his Imperial Majesty had been elected a Knight of the Most Noble Order of the Garter. Garter King of Arms, kneeling, presented the Garter to the Sovereign, and her Majesty, assisted by his Royal Highness Prince Albert, buckled it on the left leg of the Emperor, the Chancellor pronouncing the admonition. Garter King of Arms presented the Riband with the George, and the Queen put the same over the left shoulder of the Emperor, the Chancellor pronouncing the admonition. The Queen then gave the accolade to the Emperor, and his Imperial Majesty received the congratulations of his Royal Highness Prince Albert, his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, his Serene Highness the Prince of Leiningen, and each of the Knights Companions present.

"The Queen gave a state dinner in the evening, at which all the gentlemen appeared in uniform or court dresses, the members of orders of knighthood wearing their respective ensigns."

THE VISIT TO GUILDHALL AND THE OPERA.

Thursday, from morning till night, was a perfect gala day in London. What with vast crowds of people, "all in their best," bright and many-coloured flags, military processions, and constant strains of music, this dingy metropolis of ours became quite jubilant and holiday-like. The Emperor and Empress were to make two public appearances, and the sight-loving Cockneys came out in force. We abridge from the *Times* the record of the day's proceedings:

Arriving at the private terminus of the Nine Elms station at twelve o'clock, the Imperial guests—who were accompanied thus far by the Queen and Prince Albert—were conveyed to Buckingham Palace across Vauxhall-bridge, Millbank, Parliament-street, Whitehall, and the Mall. Thence they were conveyed by the Mall, Charing-cross, the Strand, Fleet-street, Cheapside, Princes-street, and Gresham-street, to the Guildhall, where they arrived at a quarter past two o'clock. Leaving the Guildhall at four, and following the same route back as far as Duncannon-street, Strand, they there diverged

to the right, passing in front of the National Gallery along Pall-mall East, up Regent-street and by Piccadilly and Hyde Park to the French Embassy. Thence, at six o'clock, they returned to the Palace down Constitution-hill. Along the whole of this extended drive, the people were assembled in extraordinary numbers. The pavement, the windows, and in some instances even the house-tops, were crowded with occupants. At Charing-cross alone, there could not have been less than from 20,000 to 30,000 spectators. At every commanding point, cabs, omnibuses, and waggons were drawn up and filled with eager lookers-on. The procession advanced in the gorge of a continuous valley of human life, the bare sight of which, as it swayed under its own impulses, awakened mingled emotions of astonishment and awe. At different parts of the route, the character of the crowd varied considerably. Now it was mainly composed of the humbler classes, now comfortable mediocrity preponderated, and a little beyond might be observed many persons belonging to the higher ranks of society; but wherever one went the overpowering effect of numbers was still pre-eminent. As for the cheering, it ran along on either side of the Emperor's carriage—an accompanying wave of sound which rose high over that of his tramping escort. The people were kept in excellent order along the whole line of the procession by the Metropolitan and City police, who lined the roadway on either side, and by their excellent arrangements prevented anything like confusion. In this arduous and responsible task the civil force was materially assisted by the 6th Carabiniers and the Blues—distributed by pairs at intervals, and, where necessary, backing their horses to restrain the forward pressure of the crowd. The few Foot Guards left were used as guards of honour at the railway-station, at the Palace, and the Guildhall. In the Mall they also formed a double line within the police; but their appearance there, from their small number, from the irregularity in their dress, consequent on the change of uniform, from the diminished size of the men, and from their raw, awkward manner in performing the simplest movements, excited many painful and bitter remembrances.

The Imperial cortege consisted of eight carriages from the railway-station to Buckingham Palace, and of six thence to Guildhall. It was attended by a small escort of the Life Guards in the first half of its progress, and by a large escort during the last half. Neither the Queen nor Prince Albert accompanied their illustrious guests into the City, and the visit was not made in what is usually called "State." Close carriages were used, with only a pair of horses in each, and it was impossible to get so good a view of the Imperial pair as in the open barouch on their way from the Bricklayers' Arms Station on Monday. The difficulty in this respect was increased by the rate at which the cortege went.

At the Horse Guards a guard of honour was drawn up, and saluted. At Buckingham Palace, the party remained for more than an hour, starting again at half-past one. The band of the Royal Marines, at the Admiralty, played "Partant pour la Syrie" from the summit of the entrance archway. The Nelson column was densely packed with spectators; and the Strand appeared to great advantage with its flags, and the amazing numbers of people on the parapets and at the windows. Temple-bar and the "dark dell of Fleet-street" were now entered, the barrier unguarded by the civic king against the invasion of his Imperial guests, although, had the Queen come, the ceremony of presenting the city keys would, no doubt, have been still observed. Along Cheapside, and not only within the sound, but in sight, of Bow bells, which now rang out to fortunes more romantic and marvellous than those even of Whittington, the Imperial visitors proceeded to the Mansion-house and the Bank. There a vast concourse of people had assembled to receive them. Turning to the left along Princes-street, Lothbury, and Gresham-street the cortege soon arrived at the long covered entrance to the Guildhall, where, saluted by a guard of honour, and received with the music of "Partant pour la Syrie," the Imperial guests alighted shortly after two o'clock.

Preparations on a most extensive scale had been made in Guildhall. At the eastern end of the Hall, a dais, slightly raised above the level of the floor, had been erected, and upon it were placed two chairs of State, covered with velvet of Imperial purple, and richly ornamented with gilding. On the back of one of these chairs, intended for the Emperor, the initial "N" was embroidered in gold within a wreath worked in the same material; and on the other, destined for the Empress, the initial "E" was similarly emblazoned. The State chairs were surmounted by a canopy of rich purple velvet, fringed with gold, and lined with cream-coloured satin, each corner of the canopy displaying an Imperial eagle richly gilt. On either side of the dais a considerable space next the wall was railed off for the accommodation of members of the Common Council. At the western end, a sloping gallery had been erected, which occupied one-half the hall, and at the eastern end the space which was not required for the dais and the Common Councilors' seats was filled with rows of raised benches on each side, leaving a wide passage in the centre leading to the thrones or chairs of State. At the end of these central seats, next the dais, compartments were reserved, on the south side, for Cabinet Ministers and other distinguished guests, and

on the north side for members of the *corps diplomatique*. On either side of the Hall there are seven clustered columns, and on the apex of each of these columns the national flags of England, France, and Turkey were tastefully grouped, surmounting medallion portraits of Queen Victoria and the Emperor Napoleon III., which were displayed on alternate pillars. Devices, bearing the words, "Alma," "Bala-klava," "Inkermann," supported by wreaths encircling the British lion and the French eagle, were arranged beneath the windows between each column. The seats and the floor of the Hall were covered with a light chocolate-coloured cloth, which formed an agreeable contrast to the predominant tricolours in the upper part of the building. The boudoir prepared for the Empress was furnished in a very tasteful and elegant manner. One of its principal ornaments was a magnificent mirror, in a carved gold frame, draped with rich lace festooned hangings over white satin.

Among the great persons present at the Guildhall were the chief members of the Government, many of the Ambassadors, and several of the nobility.

At a quarter past two o'clock, the Imperial visitors entered the hall, and proceeded towards the chairs of state, the Empress conversing for some moments with the Lady Mayoress. The Emperor, who appeared somewhat fatigued, remained standing. The spectators cheered loudly, and the Lord Mayor, aldermen, &c., approached the Emperor and Empress. The Recorder then read the Address (which did not differ in spirit from the others), and presented a copy to the Emperor, who then read the following reply:—

"My Lord Mayor,—After the cordial reception I have experienced from the Queen, nothing could affect me more deeply than the sentiments towards the Empress and myself to which you, my Lord Mayor, have given expression on the part of the City of London; for the City of London represents the available resources which a world-wide commerce affords both for civilisation and for war. Flattering as are your praises, I accept them, because they are addressed much more to France than to myself; they are addressed to a nation whose interests are to-day everywhere identical with your own (*loud applause*); they are addressed to an army and navy united to yours by an heroic companionship in danger and in glory (*renewed applause*); they are addressed to the policy of the two Governments, which is based on moderation, and on justice. For myself, I have retained on the throne the same sentiments of sympathy and esteem for the English people that I professed as an exile (*loud and prolonged cheering*), while I enjoyed here the hospitality of your Queen; and and if I have acted in accordance with my convictions, it is that the interest of the nation which has chosen me, no less than that of universal civilisation, has made it a duty. Indeed, England and France are naturally united on all the great questions of politics and of human progress that agitate the world. From the shores of the Atlantic to those of the Mediterranean—from the Baltic to the Black Sea—from the desire to abolish slavery to our hopes for the amelioration of all the countries of Europe—I see in the moral as in the political world for our two nations but one course and one end. (*Applause*.) It is, then, only by unworthy considerations and pitiful rivalries that our union could be discovered. If we follow the dictates of common sense alone we shall be sure of the future. (*Loud applause*.) You are right in interpreting my presence among you as a fresh and convincing proof of my energetic co-operation in the prosecution of the war, if we fail in obtaining an honourable peace. (*Applause*.) Should we so fail, although our difficulties may be great, we may surely count on a successful result; for not only are our soldiers and sailors of tried valour—not only do our two countries possess within themselves unrivalled resources—but above all (and here lies their superiority) it is because they are in the van of all generous and enlightened ideas. The eyes of all who suffer instinctively turn to the West. Thus our two nations are even more powerful from the opinions they represent than by the armies and fleets they have at their command. (*Great applause*.) I am deeply grateful to your Queen for affording me this solemn opportunity of expressing to you my own sentiments and those of France, of which I am the interpreter. I thank you in my own name and in that of the Empress for the frank and hearty cordiality with which you have received us. (*Applause*.) We shall take back with us to France the lasting impression, made on minds thoroughly able to appreciate it, of the imposing spectacle which England presents, where virtue on the throne directs the destinies of a country under the empire of a liberty without danger to its grandeur."

The Emperor and Empress then descended from the dais, and remained some moments in conversation with the Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress. A splendid *déjeuner* followed; and shortly before four o'clock the Imperial visitors departed.

In the corridor, between the Hall and the Council-chamber, a number of valuable portraits of the Napoleon family, lent for the occasion by Herr Wetter, were arranged. In passing through this chamber, these family likenesses naturally attracted the notice of the Emperor,

who paused before the portrait of his mother, and, directing the attention of the Empress to it, with much feeling exclaimed, "This is kind, indeed!"

In the evening the Lord Mayor gave a banquet to the general company.

The Emperor and Empress afterwards visited the Opera in company with her Majesty and Prince Albert. A royal box, in the centre of the house, had, since the last performance on Tuesday night, been constructed, and very gorgeously adorned.

The hanging of white calico, with broad satin edges and gold ornaments, gave a light and airy appearance to the boxes, adorned, moreover, with festoons of flowers from top to bottom; and here was as much propriety as elegance in the banners that separated one box from another, with the initials 'V.' 'N.' 'E.' 'A.' variously distributed in the midst of circular wreaths—one initial on each banner. The retiring rooms of the State box, which comprised the saloon at the grand entry and a portion of the lobby on the grand tier, were arranged with consummate taste and prodigious magnificence. Vast mirrors multiplied the effects of the statuary, parterres of flowers, richly adorned furniture, and endless lustres, which almost realised the ideal of one of the palaces of the *Arabian Nights*.

A new stanza, bearing on the occasion, was added to the National Anthem; and of course "Partant pour la Syrie" was played and sung, before and after the performance. On the last occasion, the bands of the Guards joined the full orchestra, producing a very grand effect.

The town was illuminated at night.

VISIT TO THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

The Emperor and Empress, accompanied by the Queen and Prince Albert, visited the Crystal Palace yesterday, arriving about half-past twelve. The attendance on the part of the public was very great, and the road (for the party did not proceed by rail) was thronged.

HONI SOIT QUI MAL Y PENSE.

(From *The Leader*, October 28, 1854.)

WHEN the French Emperor was expected to pay a visit to England last year, the *Leader* wrote as follows:—

"There is nothing, as Mrs. Malaprop observed, like the friendship which begins with a little aversion; and we do not in the least suspect the heartiness of the present affection between the two Courts, and between Louis Napoleon and the enlightened English public, merely because some few months ago it was taken for granted by the said enlightened public that Louis Napoleon contemplated a visit without waiting for an invitation. A great commercial nation, which is very busy about money, and leaves the work of thinking to its leading journals, can only judge of the moment by the appearances of the moment; and the explanation of the present popularity on this side of the Channel of the hero of the *coup d'état* of December, 1851, is not at all disgraceful to the English people. For neither in 1852 nor in 1854 is Louis Napoleon regarded by us from the French point of view, but strictly and exclusively from the English point of view. If we did, now or formerly, consider him as a French politician, he remaining the same man—a despot then and a despot now—why, of course, the laugh at us as an inconsistent people would be thoroughly justified. But, in fact, the English nation did not care whether he was a despot or not—did not even think him wrong in assassinating the French Republic—and are utterly insensible now to his crimes in maintaining Cayenne, in crushing the press, in annihilating literature, in refusing representation, and, at Rome, in robbing a people of freedom, in order that a (locally) abhorred Church may prolong a putrid existence. With all these things the non-intervening English nation has nothing to do; and, in truth, does not form opinions about them. The Louis Napoleon, who was denounced in 1852-3 by our leading journals, like the *Times*, and by our parrot statesman, like Sir James Graham, was the man who, suspected of a monomania about Waterloo, was suspected, in consequence, of a sinister intention to invade England. The Louis Napoleon, who is now far more popular in England than in France, is the powerful monarch whose interest, it is calculated, it is to cultivate the English alliance, and whose alliance—which our Queen, head of the monarchical society of Europe, is wisely endeavouring to guarantee by extending those courtesies so precious to parvenus—is of vital consequence to England, in a period when England, having assailed Russia, may have opposed to her two-thirds of Europe. Thus, there is no inconsistency whatever in our national conduct; we may have been right about the invasion; we may be right about the alliance; at any rate we do the best for ourselves under the circumstances, and if there be any shame in the reconciliation, it should not be on our side.

"But the maxim of treating your friend as though he would one day be your enemy, however unjust and unwise in individual concerns, is very applicable

to the intercourse of peoples, and should carefully be borne in mind in such a case as this, where the alliance is less clearly between the English people and the French people than between the English people and the French monarch. For though it is our, and our Court's, business to assume, that where we find a Government it is a Government representative of the national will, yet, as a matter of fact, there are grave doubts whether France and Louis Napoleon are precisely the same thing; doubts arising from the circumstance, that notwithstanding the recent permanent-looking prestige of the Emperor, none of the statesmen, and not even one of the soldiers, of the old régime, have availed themselves of the opportunity, to the latter so facile and so tempting, to take service under the new man. And, even if Louis Napoleon manifestly were France, our rejoicing should be guarded—our reception a courtesy—a politic courtesy—and nothing more. Incarnate Russia, the Czar Nicholas, underwent feting, and Garter investiture, here, some years ago; and the Court and the nation, in their thoughtless generosity, endured and proffered compliments, the souvenirs of which are now somewhat ludicrous, if not somewhat degrading. Our Queen, a pure young English matron, suffered the caressing compliments and tender flatteries of the despot; and our aristocracy, mindful of possible civilities at the Winter Palace, accepted, if it did not solicit, an Ascot cup; our mob gazing and cheering the while, and our press adulating him who, really as impotent as his august brother of China, seemed the arbiter of the world, and was the tyrant of Poland, and the poisoner of the 'sick man.' Let our mistakes, in that matter, warn us against making too much of the conveniences of the present alliance, or the success of its may be merely temporary Emperor.

"That our Queen is doing her official duty in introducing the Empress Eugénie into that effective solidarity, the solidarity of dynasties, and that Prince Albert is indicating wise forethought in seeking to establish a good understanding between himself and the singular and romantic personage whose genius for fatality has procured him so great a station, is obvious. That the nation will not be behind the Court in the required politeness, we do not doubt; for our two governing classes, our aristocracy of place and our aristocracy of money, suffer from a strong inclination, scarcely checked by the constitutional traditions of their own country, to worship that colossal materialism, hideous and unintellectual, but magnificently 'practical,' which has been established in France, and of which the name of Napoleon is the disastrous symbol. For our own part we cannot sympathise with those liberals who see in the courtesy of the Court a treason to humanity; our Court is not Quixotic; and if it were sentimental, our country would correct it. With regard to the present of the Garter, we do not share in the sensitiveness which shrinks from the defilement of that chivalric institution. Louis Napoleon has been an English Special; why not a Knight of the Garter? Has the one thing more meaning than the other?"

THE PARIS EXHIBITION.

THE time is now close at hand at which the *Palais de l'Industrie* will be thrown open to the public; but, as in the case of our own Exhibition, the preparations are in a very backward state. The day appointed for the inauguration is May 1st—a day rendered classical for such a purpose by the traditions of the Hyde Park building. It is doubted, however, by many whether it will be possible to keep faith with the public; and May 21st is talked of. But the *Moniteur* states positively that the first is the day; while a third party reconcile the two opinions by surmising that the building will be formally opened by the Emperor on the appointed day, and that it will then be closed until the 21st. However this may be, it does not seem possible that everything can be finished before June. At the present time, a vast number of the goods remain unpacked; and the avenues and galleries are in a state of chaos.

The special correspondent of the *Daily News* says:—

"The authorities of the Gobelins have barricaded the north-east corner of the Palace, where they are doubtless preparing a surprise for the 1st of next month. In contrast with the wondrous tapestries of this national establishment will figure English paper-hangings and painted glass. Let us hope that we may be able to stand this contiguity with better advantage than our neighbours expect for us. The English committee appear determined to do their best to present the English contributions in the universal competition as gracefully and effectively as possible. With this view, Mr. Cole has invited Mr. Digby Wyatt to Paris. This gentleman is now occupied arranging the splendid Indian collection that is to occupy the south-eastern corner of the galleries. I notice, also, that the English proprietors of stalls have largely availed themselves of stamped leather decorations, which, fixed in designs upon the wood-work, and painted over, give the effect of carving. The Glasgow and Dundee-

the stalls are particularly conspicuous for this imitation carving. Hunt and Roskell's gallery stall is also in this style. The Nottingham lace stalls are in imitation ebony, picked out with gold. The effect is very pleasing. It is hardly possible to say what other nations intend to do in the matter of stall decorations; but, up to the present time, those of England bid fair to equal any in the Exhibition. The Nottingham stalls were sent from England. There are a few stalls in the French gallery; but with this exception, all the stalls actually fitted up in the building two days ago were English. Portugal and Spain were leisurely measuring out their space. Sardinia was desolate. In the German department, there were a few castings perceptible, and great activity prevailed hereabouts; but in America, Belgium, Mexico, &c., there was no perceptible movement."

THE LOAN.

At a meeting held at the Treasury, on Monday, in pursuance of the notice issued with respect to the new Loan, the Chancellor of the Exchequer opened the proceedings by reading twice the following conditions:—

- "1. The Loan to be for the sum of 16,000,000l.
- "2. For every 100l. subscribed in money, the contractors to have 100l. Three per Cent. Consolidated Annuities, and a terminable annuity for 30 years, ending on the 5th of April, 1885.
- "3. The biddings to be made in the terminable annuity.
- "4. The interest on the Three per Cent. Consolidated Annuities to commence from the 5th of January, 1855, and the terminable annuity to commence from the 5th of April, 1855.
- "5. The days of payment, and the proportions of the contributions to be paid, to be as follows:—

On Tuesday, April 24, 1855, deposit of 10l. per cent.

May 22, "	payment of 15l.
June 19, "	" 10l. "
July 17, "	" 15l. "
Aug. 21, "	" 10l. "
Sept. 18, "	" 10l. "
Oct. 16, "	" 10l. "
Nov. 20, "	" 10l. "
Dec. 18, "	" 10l. "

"For each instalment after the deposit, a proportional amount of Stock to be created for the contributors.

"The Stock payable on the deposit to be created at the same time with that which will be due on the last instalment, when the terminable annuity will be also written in to the contributors' names in the books of the Bank of England.

"The biddings to be made at the Treasury, on Friday morning, the 20th of April, 1855, at 10 o'clock."

A conversation then ensued, during which the ensuing additional particulars were elicited:—

That there would be no reserve for public companies. [This refers to the fact that on the occasion of former loans certain corporations and public bodies of London and other places had a large proportion of the loan, whether the total were large or small in amount. The Bank of England had 300,000l.; Abraham Newland's office, 200,000l.; the South Sea Company, 200,000l.; the Trinity Corporation, 200,000l.; the Royal Exchange Assurance Company, 200,000l.; and the Bank of Dublin had a large sum. It became a custom, and was at last claimed as a matter of right.]

The biddings to be for the entire amount of the loan. That no discount would be allowed for prompt payment, the payment of the instalments having been so arranged as to meet the requirements of the public service; but that contributors who might wish to pay up their contributions for the purpose of obtaining Stock would be at liberty to do so, without an allowance of discount.

That there would be no exemption from income tax on the first scrip dividends.

That it was not the intention of the government to continue the sales of Savings Bank Stock for the purposes of the government during the payment of the instalments; but that the demands of the savings banks alone would be their guide in selling stock.

[On this point the following remarks were made:—Baron L. Rothschild—I believe it is not an engagement on the part of the government that they will not sell. The Chancellor of the Exchequer—It is a promise extending up to the payment of the last instalment.]

That the Government had no intention of funding Exchequer-bills.

That a vote of credit for the extraordinary expenses of the war might be submitted to Parliament, and that, if granted, the amount would be raised by Exchequer-bills, and that there was no present expectation that the vote would exceed 3,000,000l., or that any of such additional Exchequer-bills would be brought into the market during the payment of the instalments.

That the Government did not contemplate any further loan during the period fixed for the payment of the instalments of the present loan, which was founded on the full amount of the provision estimated to be required for the service of the whole year, but that the Government could not pledge itself not to resort to a further loan if unforeseen circumstances should arise to render that step necessary.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer here said—"The meeting ought, perhaps, to be aware that this loan is calculated on the basis of the estimates which have been voted by the House of Commons, and which have been framed upon the assumption that the war will continue for the present year." He further stated, in answer to an inquiry whether, if a further loan were resorted to, the subscribers to the present loan would be placed in the same position as to their unpaid instalments as the subscribers to the new loan, that the conditions of the present loan must be fulfilled without reference to those of any future loan. The Chancellor of the Exchequer also said that the meeting should understand that his statements had reference solely to the intentions of the Government, and that he could not undertake to pledge himself that no foreign government should come into the market with a loan guaranteed or not by the British Government, during the payment of the instalments of the present loan.

Sir I. L. Goldsmid—I understand that you reserve to yourself the power of guaranteeing any loan which may be required by a foreign Government.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer—We do reserve that power.

In reply to a question from Mr. Hammond, the right hon. gentleman said the biddings would be opened on the following Friday morning in that room, and it must be understood that no bidding for less than the entire amount would be received.

The interview then terminated.

On Friday morning the First Lord of the Treasury, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and the Secretary of the Treasury, assembled at the Treasury for the purpose of considering tenders for the proposed loan. There were present the Messrs. Rothschild, Mr. Capel, Mr. Cazenove, Baron Lionel Goldsmid, and several gentlemen well known in the commercial world.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer said he believed there was only one tender—that sent in by the Messrs. Rothschild. It was as follows:—

"London, 20th April, 1855.
"Sir,—In conformity with the public notice issued by the Treasury, we have the honour of submitting the following offer for the loan of sixteen millions. We agree to take the whole of the sixteen millions 3 per cent. Consolidated Annuities, with dividend from the 5th of January last, at par, payable in instalments at the periods dated in the said notice, upon receiving for each 100l. an annuity of fourteen and sixpence, say 14s. 6d.—terminable in thirty years, to commence from the 5th inst., payable half-yearly; and we are accordingly ready to pay the deposit on the same.

"We remain, Sir,

"Very respectfully, your obedient servants,

"N. M. ROTHSCHILD.

"To the Right Hon. the Chancellor of the Exchequer."

The Chancellor of the Exchequer said that the Government had decided upon the acceptance of those terms.

INDIA.

By extraordinary express from India, we have dates from Bombay up to March 19, and from Calcutta up to March 9; but we hear of no political news of importance. A certain degree of excitement has been created by the announcement that the Government has opened a Five per Cent. loan of two millions sterling, to be employed on public works. The result (according to the *Bombay Times*) has been the depression of all other stock, and a general shake in the confidence of the community. The same paper states that the Madras Government, having succeeded in establishing an excellent museum at the presidency, are now endeavouring to bring local museums into existence all over the districts.—The electric telegraph has just been carried as far north as Attok. It was expected that in three months the line would extend to Peshawur, and that shortly the three presidencies of Calcutta, Bombay, and Madras would be able to communicate in a few minutes with the Afghan frontier—the most perilous part of our Indian dominions.—On the Peshawur frontier, some slight disturbances have arisen from the depredations of the hill people. Vigorous measures, however, having been taken against them, forty were captured, three killed, and five wounded, and a hundred head of cattle were secured. A story, previously published, stating that a party of the 10th Cavalry abandoned the cattle they were escorting to Fort Mackeson, and took to their heels before a body of marauders, is untrue. The hill tribes have intercepted Hyder Khan, son of Dost Mahomed, on his way to meet Mr. Lawrence: it appears that they are greatly incensed at the proposed treaty, which offends their Mussulman prejudices.—The cavalry intended for the Crimea have now all left.

From Calcutta, we learn that an opinion prevails there that Lord Dalhousie is hatching some scheme for the annexation of Oude. There are also reports that Lord Dalhousie has been strongly urged to return to England and join the Palmerston Ministry.—Trade, both at Bombay and Calcutta, was, with a few exceptions, very flat.

A despatch from Rangoon, dated February 21,

reports the loss of the ship *Arrogant*, owned by Messrs. S. S. Bennett, Brothers, of London, and commanded by Captain Donovan, on the 12th of January, on a sunken ledge of rocks, about two miles and a half to the north of the Island of Trinacutty, Nicobars—crew saved. The *Arrogant* was on her voyage from Sydney to Moulmein, to which port Captain Donovan has proceeded to communicate with her agents.

AMERICA.

By the last mail from America we have advices from New York to the 4th inst. From Washington we learn that the President had decided against an extra session of Congress, and that the action of the Government indicated warlike measures relative to the El Dorado and other outrages committed by the Cuban authorities. It appears from the returns which have as yet been made public of the election in Kansas, which took place on the 30th ult., that the Anti-slavery party made a very indifferent stand. The elections throughout the country continued to result in favour of the Know-nothings. At an election at Cincinnati, a savage riot occurred between the Dutch and the Americans. The ballot-boxes were destroyed, and it could not be ascertained which party had elected their candidate. Several severe encounters took place, and the Dutch paraded the streets with a loaded cannon, bidding defiance to the Americans. The latter, however, turned the table upon their opponents by seizing the cannon and using it against them. The result was that three of the Dutch were killed. The American party, one of whom was severely wounded, formed in procession, and paraded the streets with the cannon. The Germans afterwards took possession of it while it was left on the public landing, and conveyed it to the Freemasons' hall. The Americans then sent a committee to demand its restoration, threatening, if it were not delivered up, to go and take it. Fears were entertained that further disturbances would occur.

The steamer *Bulletin* had been burnt below Lake Providence, and twenty-three of the passengers and crew were missing. The vessel and cargo, consisting of 3500 bales of cotton, were a total loss. In the steamer *Huntsville*, 4000 bales of cotton had also been burnt. Terrible gales had been experienced at Albany and Philadelphia. At Philadelphia an extensive glass factory was blown down, and twenty-five of the workmen buried in the ruins. Eight bodies were taken from the ruins, and several persons were severely injured.

Several additional failures have taken place in California. The mob had broken into the vault of a banker, and distributed the money among the holders of certificates. Thousands were flocking to the new diggings at the Kern River.

From the Sandwich Islands we learn that the new King had issued a neutrality proclamation, and a notification that the Governments of Great Britain and France and the United States had offered him assistance to maintain his Government.

From Mexico we learn that Santa Anna had returned to the capital, and had been received with salutes of artillery and other demonstrations of joy. The revolution was said to be losing ground. One of the chiefs of the late Boulbon expedition, Captain Matthew Thomas, representing himself as an American citizen, had been arrested and sent to San Francisco.

The steamship *Black Warrior* had arrived with dates from Havannah to the 28th ult. Pinto, the chief of the conspirators, had been put to death, and Cadalso and Pinelo, it was supposed, would be sentenced to ten years in the chain-gang in Africa. An effort to procure their execution was, however, being made. The Consul of the United States is reported to have notified to the Captain-General, by direction of Secretary Marcy, "that if one drop of American blood is spilled in the present crisis, the Government of the United States will not be answerable for the result." An American citizen, Francisco Estranges, is under sentence of death. Arrests continue to be made.

Great stagnation of business prevailed at New York.

TESTIMONIAL TO THE LATE LORD DUDLEY STUART.

A MEETING of the inhabitants of Marylebone was held in the Vestry Hall, on Tuesday, for the sake of taking steps to procure some testimonial to Lord Dudley Stuart. Sir Benjamin Hall, M.P., presided, and in his opening speech suggested that an institution for the blind would be the best testimonial that could be made. His reason for this opinion was contained in the following singular anecdote:—

"For one whole year he (Sir B. Hall) was afflicted with blindness, and the whole duties of the representation of Marylebone devolved upon Lord Dudley Stuart. Directly he recovered, blindness fell upon the noble lord, and then he (Sir B. Hall) had to discharge all the duties. That was a singular circumstance in their lives; and the noble lord had often mentioned that, if he ever had the means at his disposal, he should like to raise, or assist in raising, a hospital or dispensary for the relief of those who suffered from blindness. He looked forward to the time when he should be able to found a new institution, or to add a wing to one at present in ex-

intense; but that object he was never able to carry out."

Two resolutions, expressive of regret at the loss of his lordship, and admiration of his virtues, having been put to the meeting, and Lord Ebrington, Messrs. Farrer, Josephs, Zaba (a Pole), Mitchell, and Nicolay, having spoken in favour of them,

M. Kossuth rose amidst much applause, and said:—

"They all knew that animals, by natural instinct, very often perceived a physical danger which no human philosophy could see. Just so, mankind was endowed by the Creator with natural instinct of a higher order; and some men marked out from the rest saw the results of oppression and dangerous governments more clearly and more wisely than all the wisdom of wily politicians and all the secrecy of cunning diplomatists enabled them to detect. This latter class were sometimes disposed to think that events directly affecting the freedom and national existence of a particular people did not necessarily influence the condition of other nations. These miserable votaries of a miserable expediency shrugged their shoulders with indifference, being under the influence of a self-conceited conscience, exclaiming, 'What are these things to us? We are not our brother's keeper.' There was a community in nations, and liberty was the common good of the great human family. Whenever that received any detriment, a shock was given to every member of that family, and the liberty of every one became less in amount, or deficient in security. However isolated nations might appear, there were always two principles struggling in every political storm—namely, freedom and oppression—and what was gained by one principle was lost by the other. Hence they saw that whenever a gallant people had fallen down victims to oppression, the agony of their falling brethren struck like a thunderbolt at the heart of good men. Directly a nation fell, a shout of indignation arose from the best part of humanity, a yell of horror from the noblest of human hearts, because a sense of the imminent danger was brought home to the instinct of self-preservation. There was a universal cry of sympathy and horror at the tidings of the fall of Poland and Hungary; for the danger resulting therefrom was not one of ordinary dimensions. There was an agglomeration of slumbering lava in the womb of that volcano, and the cry that had been raised at the fall of those nations was a cry attested by inspired prophecy. How slow was the progress of the logic of events? The steps of history completely baffled the expectations of the measurers by the yard. Poland and Hungary fell; and, because the heavens did not break down instantly—because the stars did not fall from their accustomed spheres, and because the earth continued to go round—the horror subsided and universal sympathy went away. He did not complain of that, for such was the nature of man. But whilst such an experience attested the general weakness of human nature, a bountiful Providence chose some special instruments, and the men so selected were raised above the ordinary level of man's nobility. With those few characters success did not excuse crime. They had not two sets of measures—one for ragged robbers in the highway, and another for robbers set over them in purple—one punishment for a briber at a borough election, and another for a royal robber who might obtain the sympathy of a nation. Those few characters knew that morality was not excluded from politics; they had compassion for the unfortunate, sympathy for the suffering, and a sentiment of fraternity towards all who were oppressed. With such characters those were not passing emotions caused by sudden emergencies, but principles of their whole lives. One of the noblest and purest of those characters was the man whose memory they had that night assembled to honour."

M. Kossuth concluded by remarking that some philanthropic institution, such as the chairman had suggested, would be more in accordance with the benevolent nature of Lord Dudley Stuart than any mere statue.

The two resolutions already adverted to were carried unanimously, and also one appointing a committee to carry out the object of the meeting. A subscription was then opened, the chairman heading it with fifty guineas; and the proceedings terminated.

OUR CIVILISATION.

MANSLAUGHTER AND MURDEROUS ASSAULT.—The two following cases were heard on the same day at Bow-street:—William Dean was charged with killing Joseph William Hart. The deceased was a carpenter at the Olympic Theatre, and lived in Drury-lane with a young woman named Elizabeth Rowson, who passed as his wife; and the prisoner occupied an adjoining room in the same house. Coming home between twelve and one o'clock on the night of the 2nd of April, the deceased had reason to suspect that he had interrupted an improper intimacy between the prisoner and the woman Rowson. He accordingly dragged the prisoner into his own room to accuse him before the woman's face, and then struck him a violent blow. A savage altercation then ensued between the two men, during which the deceased was struck on the temple with some instrument, which inflicted a terrible wound, and left him insensible

on the ground. Hart was conveyed at once to King's College Hospital, where the wound was dressed; but erysipelas ensued a few days after, and the unfortunate man died on the 8th. The only witness to the assault was the woman Rowson; and, although she denied that there had been any ground for the jealousy of the deceased, she gave her evidence against the prisoner with evident reluctance. The prisoner, however, had admitted to Inspector Mitchell that he struck the deceased with the heel of a boot; but the house surgeon considered that the wound must have been caused by some more formidable instrument. The prisoner said he should reserve his defence. On a later day, he was committed for trial.—Ann Brennan was charged with throwing a brickbat at the head of George Wilson, and causing him serious injury. The woman, who lodged in a room opposite the complainant's residence in Half-moon-court, Clare-market, deliberately threw down the brick from an upper window, and laid open his head in a frightful manner. The prisoner, who said her sleeve caught the brick as she was shaking her fist at him, was fined 5*l.*, or six weeks' imprisonment in default.

SAVAGE ATTACKS BY MILITIAMEN.—John Tahan, belonging to the City of London Militia, was brought up at Clerkenwell, on Monday, charged with a murderous attack on James Neville, a policeman. The prisoner had been seen by a constable, in the dead of the night, lurking in a dark place. Upon the officer turning his light upon him, he endeavoured to pick a quarrel, and significantly touched the hilt of his bayonet; but the police having received orders to avoid, if possible, any collision with the militia, he was not then taken into custody. About twenty minutes after this, the policeman, Neville, passed by, when the prisoner, with a very foul expression, said, "I am waiting for you; I have got a bit of cold steel for you." He then rushed at the constable with his bayonet, and stabbed at him, the thrusts taking effect on the fingers, palm, and thumb of the left hand, and on the right ear and the upper lip. Neville called for assistance, and the prisoner ran away, but was stopped and secured by another constable. In his flight, he threw away his bayonet, and, on being taken to the station-house, he said he did not mean the attack for Neville; he meant it for another policeman. Before the magistrate, he said he had been drinking; but he was committed for trial. The magistrate made some severe but just comments on the fact of such men being allowed to carry their bayonets, a liberty which is not even allowed to the household troops.—At Worship-street, on the same day, another private in the City of London Militia was charged with a dreadful outrage upon Joseph Towers, a potman. The occasion of the quarrel did not appear; but a witness deposed to seeing Harrington, the accused, strike Towers two frightful blows in the face. The injured man fell to the ground, and struck his head against a piece of granite in the carriage way. Blood streamed forth in profusion, and he was conveyed insensible to the hospital. The magistrate, hearing that Towers was in a highly dangerous state, said it would be necessary to take his deposition; but a policeman, having made inquiry at the hospital, returned, and said, "The surgeon expresses his belief that it would be quite useless attempting to take the man's deposition in his present condition. I saw his face; and his eyes, which are filled with a yellow fluid, emitting blood, appear to be quite gone. By speaking loudly at his ear, he seemed to understand, but uttered only indistinct sounds." The prisoner appealed for a character to his sergeant. That officer, however, said that Harrington was one of the worst characters in the regiment. He was remanded for a week.—Assaults by militiamen have latterly become very frequent. The dregs of London, in fact, are swept into the metropolitan regiments; and to arm such dangerous characters with a deadly weapon is a scandalous outrage upon the public safety. It does not appear that in the latter case the bayonet was used; but it was in the former, and in some other instances which have recently come before the public.

BRUTALITY TO A WIFE.—George Bliss, a master painter, was sentenced on Tuesday, at Worship-street, to six months' imprisonment and hard labour for an assault upon his wife. Coming home drunk about one o'clock in the morning, he was not admitted as soon as he desired, his wife being at the top of the house. He, therefore, dragged her down stairs by the hair of the head, and kicked her about the face. At the same time, he swore he would kill her, saying he should get off as Mrs. Ramsbotham did. She was rescued at length by a policeman. The prisoner said he had found his wife on the stairs with a young man; but this was emphatically denied. He was, therefore, committed.

THEFT BY A BANK CLERK.—Percy Burt, a clerk in the Bank of England, was charged at Southwark with stealing a gold watch from a woman of the town. The prisoner said the watch was lent to him, and that he fully meant to return it, but was called into the country on business, and on coming back could not see the woman. He was arrested at the Holborn Casino. After his examination at the police office, he wrote to his mother for the watch which was then at his house; and Mr. Solomon, his counsel, said, upon his being again brought before the magistrate, that it was ready to be given up. He was remanded, however, but the magis-

trate consented to take bail. On Thursday he was again brought up, when one of the officers of the Bank of England came forward and said there was no such name as Burt among the eight hundred clerks of that establishment. Upon this, the young man admitted that he had told a falsehood, and that he was a clerk in the National Provincial Bank of England. After a good deal of fencing with the prisoner's counsel, it came out that Burt had pledged the watch for 2*l.* 10*s.*, and that his mother, upon receipt of his note, redeemed it. The magistrate, having some doubt whether the prisoner could be convicted of stealing the watch, convicted him of unlawfully pledging it, and fined him 5*l.*

AN ODD CASE.—Mr. William Bishop, gunmaker, of New Broad-street, was brought up at Marlborough-street, charged with unlawfully receiving the sum of 4*l.* for the restoration of a dog which was in the possession of a man who was not the owner. The curious part of the case was, that the prisoner was charged under the very act which he was mainly instrumental in procuring some years ago, in consequence of the systematic robberies of dogs by dog-stealers, and the large sums of money they sometimes succeeded in obtaining from the owners.—Evidence of the fact having been given, Mr. Bishop entered into recognizances to appear again next Tuesday.

MORE MILITIA BRUTALITY.—At Hammersmith, on Wednesday, two men belonging to the West Middlesex Militia were committed for trial on a charge of violating a girl sixteen years of age.

HEALTH OF LONDON DURING THE WEEK. (From the Registrar-General's Report.)

In the week that ended last Saturday, the deaths of 1347 persons (715 males and 632 females) were registered in London. In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1845-54, the average number was 1035, which, if raised by a tenth part for increase of population, becomes 1138. Hence it appears that a high rate of mortality still prevails, the excess of deaths in the present return over the estimated number being 209.

Of the total number of last week's deaths 688, or nearly a half, occurred under 20 years of age; and of these 262 were the deaths of children who had not completed their first year. Sixty persons died who had attained the age of 80 years and upwards; during the 15 weeks of this year, the greatest number of octogenarians who died in any week was 95, when the mean temperature, which has now risen to 47.2 deg., was at 30 deg. The weekly number of deaths from bronchitis observes a remarkable uniformity; in the last five weeks it has been successively 163, 146, 149, 155, and 153. Pneumonia is less regular in its effect, the cases in which it was fatal in the same weeks having been 135, 96, 113, 98, and 92. There is now a decrease in the mortality of hooping-cough. From six zymotic diseases—small-pox, measles, scarlatina, hooping-cough, diphtheria, and typhus—there were altogether 191 deaths last week, of which only 18 occurred in the central districts, 29 in the western, 42 in the northern, the same number in the eastern, and in the southern districts 60, 17 of which were caused by scarlatina. Four deaths from scarlatina were in the sub-district of St. Paul, Deptford, and 3 in that of Woolwich Arsenal. Out of 13 deaths from diarrhoea, 8 occurred in the southern districts—viz., those lying on the southern side of the river, the population of which is more than a fourth of the entire population of London.

Last week the births of 912 boys and 806 girls, in all 1718 children, were registered in London. In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1845-54, the average number was 1411.

STATE OF TRADE, LABOUR, AND THE POOR.

THE condition of the chief manufacturing districts continues, on the whole, satisfactory. From Manchester, under date of April 19, we hear that the market is quite firm, though the fabrics suited to the Eastern markets are not much in request. Some of the American houses are doing rather more business. In the lace trade of Nottingham there has been a still further improvement, principally in the home market, for the foreign orders come in slowly. The prices of silk materials have not rallied much; but the hosiery trade has decidedly improved, both home and American buyers acting with increased spirit. The labour market is consequently more active. There is a fair seasonable demand for cloth in the markets of Leeds; and the sales of wool at Liverpool have been brisk, with an unusually large attendance of foreign buyers. For East India wools there was considerable competition and improved prices. The leather trade of Bristol has exhibited considerable activity. Reports from the North of Ireland state that the demand for cotton is dull; but that in the sales of linen, flax, and flax-seed, there has been a great improvement.

From these comparatively cheerful accounts, we turn with pain to the gloomy condition of the iron and mining districts. The quarterly meetings of the ironmasters have been held, and the tone of business is by no means favourable. Several of the first makers refuse to sell at a lower figure than the 20*s.* decline; but the lower descriptions of iron have dipped considerably under that price. Indeed, in many instances the selling price is the

nearest shade higher than the cost of production. Foreign orders continue scarce, and the home trade is also languid. Those of the masters who can afford to stand still are contracting their operations, as the difference between the cost of material and labour and the selling price is so nicely balanced as to become a loss at the slightest further decline.

A very large number of miners are on strike, owing to the reduction of their wages, and, in the neighbourhood of Wigan, to the demand on the part of the masters that they should work the mines eight days a fortnight instead of twelve, thus causing a still further diminution in their receipts. The masters say that pique has become almost a drug in the market. At Brierly Hill, near Dudley, little short of three thousand colliers are on strike; and a considerable body of the county constabulary has been called forth in anticipation of disturbances. At Wigan, nearly two thousand colliers and drawers are in a state of voluntary idleness; but no disturbances have taken place.

The condition of the Hebrides and West Highlands still remains very bad. The poor people are almost starving; for the insecurity in the tenure of land, and the want of capital are such that between the exhaustion of one crop and the in-gathering of another—generally from June till September—there is a positive absence of the bare necessities of existence. Mr. Charles Forbes, a gentleman who is connected with a society for the relief of Highland destitution, has written on this subject to the morning papers. He says:—"Owing to a more complete failure of the potato crop last autumn than in any previous year, and a wet and bad harvest of their scanty patches of oats or barley, aggravated by the dearth of provisions, destitution in a most alarming form oppresses the people of the remote islands of the west; and the society has been urged to extend industrial employment in knitting of hose, the weaving of cloth, towelling, &c., which it organised in 1851, as a means of 'helping the poor to help themselves.' As regards this plan of feeding the hungry, without pauperising them in spirit, the most gratifying testimonies have been received. From the island of Harris, where the society had previously afforded valuable assistance, in a letter now before me, dated the 3rd of April, addressed to our secretary, from the schoolmaster of Sealpay, asking for renewed aid (since granted to a small extent) to that remote island, he says:—"The poor creatures are in a famished state, without food or clothes; neither have they a particle of seed to crop their lands with. Unless some seed be sent them they will next year be worse off than they are this one. I never saw such severe destitution. I fear many of the poor creatures have already starved for want of food. I hope your committee will take their sad position into consideration by sending them immediate relief." These poor people in the Hebrides, the kindred of those brave Highlanders who have performed prodigies of valor on behalf of their Queen and country, are not entitled to relief while able-bodied. When disabled, they may have miles to travel to find a poor-law inspector; they have no workhouses in which they can take refuge; they cannot wander forth and invade, like hungry wolves, our southern towns, for rugged mountains or stormy seas hem them in, with nothing but the skies above and the barren moor around them to derive succour from, unless benevolence and Christian charity respond to our advertised appeal for largely-extended help."

CONTINENTAL NOTES.

A circular forwarded to the governors of provinces by M. de Decker, the new Belgian Minister of the Interior, states that "the idea which presided over the formation of the cabinet is openly avowed—a compromise among all moderate opinions."

Mlle Doudet has appealed to the Imperial Court against the judgment of the Tribunal of Correctional Police. In answer to interrogations by the President, she protested her innocence; and asserted that some of the witnesses had been gained over to speak against her, and that others had deposed to matters of which they were ignorant. The further hearing of the case was postponed to the 24th of April. M. Henry Celliez, a barrister, has written a pamphlet in favour of the accused. This *Mémoire*, M. Berryer (Mlle. Doudet's counsel) says, he intends to use for the defence; and the ground upon which the court consented to postpone the trial was that the whole impression was not yet finished. On the other hand, it is reported that the Advocate-General will take advantage of the appeal to demand that the sentence of two years' imprisonment pronounced against Mlle. Doudet may be augmented to five.

In consequence (says *Galignani*) of a duel which recently took place at Madrid between two newspaper writers, the journalists of that city have decided that, in order to prevent such affairs in future, a tribunal of honour, consisting of five members, shall be nominated every month, to decide on, and arrange, all personal disputes which may arise between gentlemen of the press in that city.

The Pope has had a narrow escape of his life. On the 12th inst., his "Holiness" gave a dinner to a great many distinguished personages in the convent of St. Agnes, several of the students of which were admitted, after dinner, to the extreme felicity of kissing the holy toe. However, it seems there is many a slip 'twixt the

toe and the lip; envious Fate interposing at the very moment of beatification, and causing the floor to sink through, carrying the "Holy Father" and several others along with it. The Pope escaped unhurt (by special favour); but Cardinal Antonelli, General Moutrel, commandant of the French division, and some of the pupils of the convent, received slight contusions. His "Holiness" must have thought he was about to fulfil the Fate-like command of Mazzini:—"You are a Lie: Descend!"

Mr. Lionel Gisborne has settled the conditions on which an English company will undertake the construction of a submarine telegraph from Constantinople to Alexandria. The scheme of Mr. Gisborne is independent of the Belgrade line, but is dependent on it for success. He proposes to carry wires under the Sea of Marmora and the Dardanelles, thence under the Archipelago to Rhodes, and from Rhodes to strike boldly across the Mediterranean to Alexandria. This last part of the enterprise is the boldest idea yet conceived with respect to submarine telegraphing; but I am informed that no difficulty will present itself which may not be overcome in the present state of science. The pecuniary arrangements are now finally settled. The Turks are to pay 5000*l.* a year for 21 years, in return for which all government messages will be sent gratis between the Ottoman and Egyptian capitals.—*Times Constantinople Correspondent.*

A letter from Shumla states that the telegraph which was commenced in February was completed from Varna to Shumla on the 18th, and that that from Shumla to Rustchuk would be open by the end of the first week in April. If this be the case, the communication between Varna and Vienna may be expected to be completed before many days are over.—*Idem.*

A letter from Athens, dated the 31st ult., says:—"The new Emperor of Russia promises, it is said, to extend at the close of the war the limits of the kingdom of Greece to the frontier of Macedonia. Promises of money have also been made; and it is currently rumoured that the Court will not desist from promoting the intrigues of Russia. Fortunately, the majority of the Greek people understand now their real position, and do not seem disposed to act in favour of the policy of Russia; and there is reason to hope that the energy of General Kalergi will baffle any attempts that may be made to disturb tranquillity. To the secret agents of Russia are attributed the acts of brigandage which have recently taken place, such as the robbery of a large sum of money belonging to the government between Corinth and Athens in the open day, and similar acts in Euboea on the person of an English resident. The Greeks generally are convinced that the more Russia shall be humbled, the more certainly will the solemn engagements of the West in favour of the Christians of the East be realized."

Count Cieszkowski has delivered a speech in the Second Chamber at Berlin, explaining the reasons why the Polish deputies abstained from voting on the Prussian loan. He said they had done so on a similar occasion last year, and now did so again, because they did not wish, by voting against the loan, to embarrass the government, and yet could not vote in its favour, since no assurance was given of a sound and advantageous policy.

The subject of the French Emperor's journey to the Crimea is revived. It is now said that he will start on the 10th of May, and that the Empress will accompany him even to the seat of war itself. But these rumours may turn out as baseless as the former.

A great misunderstanding has arisen between the Jesuits and the King of Naples, and it is thought the former will be compelled to leave the kingdom. Strange to say, they are too liberal for the King.

The Madrid journals of the 10th contain details of the attempted insurrection in that city on the previous evening. Groups, it appears, collected in the vicinity of the Cortes and the Puerta del Sol, and raised cries of "Death to Espartero!" "Death to O'Donnell!" and "Death to Santa Cruz!" There were also some cries of "Long Live Espartero!" The civil governor of the capital, M. Sagasti, at the head of two companies of the national guard, succeeded in dispersing the groups without bloodshed. Several persons who were acting as leaders of the movement were arrested, and amongst them was the brother of an ultra-liberal deputy. The Government did not think it advisable to employ the regular troops; but they were assembled in their barracks ready to act at a moment's notice. It was considered certain that the agitation had been got up by a distribution of money supplied by the absolutist party. This party is in fact, it is stated, endeavouring to make use of the republicans to overthrow the Government. The civil governor had published a bando forbidding the assemblage of groups of more than eight persons in the vicinity of the Cortes. It was the determination of the Government to support order at every cost. In the event of a new attempt at disturbance, it intended not only to proclaim the state of siege, but also the law of the 21st of April, for the immediate punishment of conspirators. It considered itself certain to be supported by the regular troops, and by the majority of the national guard. A sort of proclamation purporting to emanate from the national guard, and containing violent threats against the deputies in the event of the adoption of the bill on the national guard by the Cortes, was in circulation.

M. Ducos, Minister of the Marine, died at Paris on Tuesday night.

The *Epos* of the 10th contains the following paragraph in answer to an article against Lord Howden:—"We can assure the *Epos* that Lord Howden is a Roman Catholic. He declared himself to be so on the occasion of a recent marriage of two persons of the diplomatic body. Besides which, we understand that, as an Irish peer, the English representative has always professed that faith."

The generals of the religious orders still existing in Piedmont have addressed a letter, dated Rome, 31st ult., to the archbishops and bishops of that kingdom, congratulating them on the resistance they have made to the Convents Suppression Bill, now before the Senate at Turin, and thanking them for the protection they have thus granted to the establishments, menaced with destruction. This document is signed by nineteen generals, including the Bishop of Porphyr, general of the Augustinian monks.

A letter from Arta (Lower Albania), dated April 5, states that some Greek soldiers having deserted and advanced into the Turkish territory, Achmet Pacha had marched against them with a battalion of infantry and two pieces of mountain cannon.

The *Sentinelles du Jura* of the 15th says:—"We are now arrived at the middle of April, and the sowing has not yet commenced in the high grounds of this department. Snow falls almost every day, and never in the memory of man has it lain so deep as at present; it varies from one metre to six metres according to the locality. Many houses are buried up to the roofs, and the inhabitants, in order to obtain greens, are frequently obliged to cut a passage through the snow. Nearer Mount Jura it is still worse; to the west of Reculet, one house is so completely buried that not a part of it is visible."

NAVAL AND MILITARY NEWS.

ADMIRAL DUNDAS'S FLAG-SHIP, the Duke of Wellington, has completed the repairs rendered necessary by her collision with the American emigrant-ship.

THE LOSS OF THE TIGER.—The court-martial appointed to inquire into this affair terminated on Saturday last, in the following finding:—"The Court is of opinion that the ship Tiger was run on shore in consequence of her having been rashly conducted as she approached the coast of Odessa, and that, after the ship had been run on shore, the measures resorted to to get her adrift were injudicious: but, in respect to the surrender of the Tiger to the enemy, that, as the ship was aground without any hope being entertained of floating her off, and as she was exposed to the enemy's guns, which had set her on fire, and upon which the guns of the ship could not be brought to bear, no blame can be imputed in consequence of such surrender. The Court is further of opinion that no blame is imputable to the said Lieutenant Alfred Royer, since he acted under the immediate directions of his captain, and the Court doth adjudge him to be acquitted. The Court is further of opinion that Mr. Francis Edington is blameable for the want of caution that was exhibited by him in approaching the shore near Odessa; but, in consideration of his previous good character and long services, doth adjudge him to be only severely reprimanded; and the said Lieutenant Alfred Royer is hereby acquitted, and the said Mr. Francis Edington is hereby severely reprimanded accordingly."

THE MILITIA.—The greater number of the regiments in this force continue to dwindle under the influence of Lord Panmure's act of grace. The Duke of Lancaster's artillery, which, but a short time ago, mustered one thousand strong, can now show only about half that number. The Third West York Regiment, now stationed at Dublin, is reduced almost to a skeleton. The men were offered a month's furlough, in addition to the supplementary bounty of 1*l.*, if they would remain, and were exhorted as Englishmen not to desert their colours; but to very little effect. Only 121 volunteered to remain on duty, while 329 left. The Anglesie regiment has melted down from upwards of 800 to 20 or 30. The Armagh regiment, however, has volunteered, without one dissentient, to go abroad; the great majority of the Dublin regiment, and nearly 600 non-commissioned officers and privates of the Second West York Light Infantry, have also been attested for foreign service. The Antrim Militia has given upwards of 75 volunteers to the line; the Monaghan Militia, 52; and the Galway Militia, officers and men, have volunteered in a body for the Crimea. In fact, the Irish regiments seem almost to monopolise the spirit and "pluck" which we might expect to see generally diffused. The West York Rifles, however, are in a high state of efficiency, with very slightly diminished numbers; and 175 of the Duke of Lancaster's Militia have joined the line.

ARRIVALS OF SICK AND WOUNDED FROM THE CRIMEA.—175 rank and file of various regiments, together with some officers and their wives, arrived at Plymouth on Tuesday. Five deaths occurred on the voyage, during which the weather was very stormy, and some of the berths in the troop deck were broken.

LAUNCH OF TWO FLOATING BATTERIES.—On Tuesday afternoon, two large floating batteries (constructed for the Government) were launched from the yard of Messrs. C. J. Mare and Co., at Blackwall. The scene was an

animated one, and the fineness of the weather attracted a crowd of spectators. The first vessel, the Meteor, was launched soon after half-past one, and the second, the Thunder, a few minutes after two o'clock. These floating batteries, or enormous gunboats, as they may be called, present a very imposing appearance. Their length between the perpendiculars is 172 feet 6 inches, their extreme breadth 44 feet 6 inches, and their depth in hold 14 feet 7 inches. Their tonnage is 1469. They are coated with iron about 4 inches to 4½ inches in thickness, and are pierced for 28 10-inch Lancaster guns, carrying 68-pounders. The decks are of 9-inch oak, the beams being 12 inches square, and only their breadths apart. One peculiarity worthy of notice is that the mooring-holes are below the water-line. The extreme draught of water (with everything on board) will be 7 feet 9 inches. The Meteor and the Thunder were launched with the steam up. Their engines are high pressure, and of 200-horse power. Three more of these batteries are in course of construction for her Majesty's Government in other yards, making five in all.

THE CAMP AT ALDERSHOTT.—On approaching the heath, said to comprise 3000 acres, the long ranges of wooden huts have a curious appearance, and suggest the temporary towns of the gold country. Six hundred of the huts are ready (about half the number intended), and these stand eighteen feet apart, on each side of a road (a sufficient number being together to serve for a battalion). Each hut for the privates is to accommodate twenty-five men, with a kitchen, and a range, or cooking-stove. With the exception of the fire-place, the huts are wholly formed of timber, boarded inside and out, and, in the first instance, were planted down on the soil without any foundation. Those erected more lately, however, have some concrete, with a few courses of bricks, for the woodwork to stand on. The roof is formed of feather-edge deals, covered with asphalted felt. The arrangement of the huts is not good. In fact, we should not be honest if we did not say that it seems to us to be very bad. A flat ceiling is formed with boarding at the level of the underside of the tie-beams; and the windows, hinged at the top to make the matter worse, are placed low on the sides of the hut, not more than four feet six inches from the hinges to the floor. The room has the aspect of a large eggbox. With a quarter of a hundred men sleeping in it, the atmosphere will become poisonous. It is true, there is a hole in the ceiling, to allow the smokepipe of a stove to pass through; but the small annular opening left round the pipe would be altogether insufficient for the purpose of ventilation. Why have the flat ceiling at all? If the boarding followed the line of rafters at a sufficient distance from them to enclose a layer of air, protection would be obtained from sudden alternations of temperature, and a more lofty and healthful apartment formed, of a convenient shape for draining off the vitiated air. The greater number of the huts are being executed by Messrs. Haward and Nixon.

—*Builder.*

LORD CARLISLE has paid a visit to the sick and wounded soldiers in Dublin. His Excellency entered into conversation with them, and shook hands with each previous to addressing him, and when about to leave.

THE BRITISH FOREIGN LEGION IN AMERICA.—An examination into the facts connected with the enlistment, in America, of recruits for the British Foreign Legion has taken place. Fifteen have been arrested at Philadelphia as they were leaving that city on board a steamer for New York. The number that has been raised in Philadelphia is estimated at 500. In New York, a person named J. R. Bucknell, said to be an officer of the British army, has been arrested and sent to Philadelphia, charged with enlisting persons for this object. Mr. Bucknell represented himself as an engineer engaged in employing men to work on railroads in Texas.

SIR THOMAS COCHRANE'S SQUADRON of the Baltic fleet returned to Spithead from the Downs on Wednesday morning.

LARGE BODIES OF MEN still continue to embark for the Crimea.

THE BALTIC AND THE FLEET.—A communication from the Sound, dated the 10th of April, and published in the *Independence Belge*, says that the ice in the Baltic had not then broken up, but that the entrance into that sea from the Sound and the Great Belt would, no doubt, be navigable in eight days at most. The Gulf of Finland, it is added, would not be free for another month. From Kiel we hear that the principal part of Admiral Dundas's fleet was expected to arrive there in the course of three or four days. A despatch from Hamburg of Thursday says that an English fleet, of twelve ships of the line and four steamer corvettes was seen on the preceding evening in front of Nyborg.

POLISH VOLUNTEERS FOR THE FOREIGN LEGION.—The *Morning Herald* of Friday contains the following piece of satisfactory intelligence from Plymouth:—"Two hundred Poles belonging to the part of the Russian garrison captured at Bomarsund, now in the military prisons at Plymouth, have volunteered for service in the Foreign Legion, and have been accepted. On Thursday morning they left the prisons, and embarked on board the Royal William, 120, Captain Kingcome, there to wait for a steam-transport to take them to the depot of the Legion."

MISCELLANEOUS.

SIR JAMSETJEE JEEJEEBHAY.—The Court of Common Council has resolved to present the above-mentioned Indian gentleman with the freedom of the City. Alderman Kennedy, in making a motion to this effect, said:—"The gentleman for whom, as a personal favour to himself, as well as on public grounds, he asked the freedom of the City, had given in charitable donations, of a public and private character, the almost fabulous sum of 800,000*l.* By an official document issued from the India House, it was shown that his donations through Government, and in a public form, amounted to the enormous sum of 86,000*l.* At a public meeting held in Bombay, on the 16th of January last, for the purpose of raising subscriptions for the Patriotic Fund, a donation was announced of 500*l.* from Sir Jamsetjee, and 250*l.* from each of his three sons, making a total of 1250*l.* When her Majesty, some time ago, was pleased to confer on Sir Jamsetjee the dignity of knighthood, the Parsee community, in token of their sense of her Majesty's condescension, and of the noble and patriotic character of him on whom the rank was conferred, subscribed a sum of 35,000*l.* as a fund to be designated 'Sir Jamsetjee Jeejeebhoy's Fund,' for the purpose of defraying the expenses of translating European works into the Indian languages, for free distribution among the Parsee community, and in furtherance of popular education. To this sum, Sir Jamsetjee had added 35,000*l.*; and the money was now invested by the British Government for carrying European knowledge into India."

DAMAGING PICTURES.—At the Liverpool Assize Court, on Saturday, an action was brought against the Chester and Holyhead Railway Company, by J. Naylor, Esq., to recover the sum of 4500*l.* for damages to certain pictures, which, while being conveyed across the company's lines at Oswestry, were run into by a train, destroying the horse, van, and the property above named. The pictures had been on view in Liverpool during the visit of the British Association, and were highly prized. After the case had been called on, the respective parties effected a compromise, the company paying the plaintiff 2500*l.* and costs.

MR. ROEBUCK'S COMMITTEE.—On Saturday, the first volume of the evidence in the Committee of Inquiry, respecting the army before Sebastopol, was published by order of Parliament. The Blue-book contains 729 folio pages.

BARNUM'S "BABY SHOW."—A baby show is to take place at Barnum's on the 5th of June. The premiums range from 250 dols. down to 10 dols. A committee of ladies has been appointed to act as judges. The "finest baby under five years of age" will receive 100 dols. for being so nice. The "finest" twins, 50 dols.; the "finest" triplet, 150 dols.; the "finest" quatern (four at a birth), 250 dols. The fattest child, 50 dols. These are inducements. Barnum says, "Two triplets and one quatern are already engaged, and we expect the woman from Ohio with five at a birth."—*New York Daily Times.*

DEATH FROM MACHINERY.—We derive from the *Manchester Examiner* the following details of a most appalling accident which has recently occurred at Staleybridge:—"Luke Carter, a self-acting minder, was engaged with another man in piecing a strap; he was suddenly taken up to a horizontal shaft, and became entangled among the machinery, so that the strap had to be cut to set the body at liberty. Before he could be got at both his feet had been torn from his body a little below the knees, both his arms were also broken, and he was nearly knocked in pieces. One of the spinners heard the deceased shout out, and ran towards him; but before he could get to him, the foot of the deceased flew off and hit him on the arm. The deceased's body was then going round the shaft. The engine was stopped in about three minutes after the deceased was caught. In going round, he broke a steam-pipe. During the three minutes, the deceased's body would go round the shaft close upon four hundred times. A small basketful of the remains of the deceased was picked off the floor after the accident."—Accidents such as these, which are not of rare occurrence, render imperative some protection to the workman by means of inclosing the machines; yet all such measures are opposed by the master manufacturers.

RAILWAY ACCIDENT.—An engine-driver on the Great Northern Railway has been killed by an act of great rashness. While the train was at full speed, he sprang off the back part of the tender on to the guard's van, and was in the act of walking over some luggage at the top of one of the passenger carriages, when the back of his head struck against an iron girder bridge, and he was instantaneously killed. He was fond of betting on horse-races, and, in order to talk with any of his turf friends who might happen to be in the train, he would often pass from the engine on to the footboards of the carriages, or reach the latter by clambering over the roofs to the steps at the end. He had already had one or two narrow escapes, but obstinately refused to take warning from them.

MOUNTED ESCORT CORPS FOR AUSTRALIA.—One hundred men, selected from the police of Glasgow, Liverpool, and other northern towns, have sailed from Liverpool in the *Exodus*. The force, which is to be mounted, consists of 90 men, 8 sergeants, and 2 inspectors; the last-named officers being Captain Hampton

and Mr. John Cecil Reed, late an efficient and active inspector in the G division of the metropolitan police. Garratt, the bank robber, proceeds by the same vessel.

THE AFRICAN SLAVE TRADE.—By the last mail from the African station, we learn that certain notorious slave-dealers had attempted to re-establish the trade at Lagos, but that Commander Miller succeeded in obtaining their expulsion. The King of Dahomey and the King of the Ashantes were on their march to attack Abbeokuta, the Olake of which place had made application for a naval officer to conduct the defence of his town.

EXTRAORDINARY CASE: RIFLING A TOMB.—A painful sensation has been caused at Bristol by the violation of the vault in which for several centuries have reposed the remains of the Smyth family, of Ashton-court, situated about three miles from Bristol. It is now scarcely twenty years since the celebrated case of "Tom Provis," alias Sir Hugh Smyth, was tried at Gloucester. It will be remembered that the trial attracted general attention at the time, owing to the success an audacious impostor obtained among the citizens of Bristol and Clifton. The present attempt, however, had probably more to do with anticipated booty than the recovery of documents. From inquiries made on the spot, it appears that there must have been at least seven or eight persons engaged in the matter; and, from the artistic manner in which the vault was laid open, it is equally plain that some stone-masons were engaged to conduct the operations. Owing to family differences, the aunt of the late Sir John and Sir Hugh Smyth resided by herself. She was of somewhat eccentric habits, and it was currently reported at the time of her funeral that a quantity of jewels were interred with her; that, the body having been embalmed, the heart was placed within the coffin, enclosed in a silver box; and that the breastplate, handles, &c., upon the coffin, were of pure silver. The thieves cut open the lead coffin of the late Sir John Smyth, and also that of the late Lady Smyth. The former they must have had some difficulty in removing from its position, as it took four men to replace it. They were disappointed, however, in their anticipations of plunder, the lead coffin in which are contained the remains of the Dowager Lady Smyth remaining intact. It is supposed, also, that they were disturbed, as they left a dark lantern behind them, and some massive silver ornaments, which had been appended to the exterior of one of the coffins. A large reward has been offered for the discovery of the offenders; but at present the police have no clue to them, although it is more than suspected they belong to a gang who have long infested the parishes of Westminster and Long Ashton, near Bristol.

DISCOVERY OF A DRUIDICAL CIRCLE. &c.—The *Perthshire Advertiser* records that a small Druidical circle close to the highway has been laid bare at Tyndry by the removal of some masses of broom and brambles that had hitherto concealed it. It is about 18 feet in diameter, and quite entire, each of its huge stones standing erect and in its proper place; but an additional interest arises from the fact that, while digging and levelling the interior, four huge urns, about two feet in height and one foot in diameter at the mouth, were exhumed, quite full of calcined bones, beside three or four stone coffins, formed of thin, unshapen slabs, evidently from the adjacent ground, and likewise containing the mortal remains of the ancient Caledonians of a pre-historic period. Unfortunately, either from the extreme brittleness of the urns, or a want of care on the part of the labourers, the whole were broken to pieces; but enough still remained to show that they were of the very coarsest manufacture, in shape remote from classical, and with no pretension to decoration but a profusion of scratchings without method on the outside of the upper portion of each. The coffins were equally unceremoniously dealt with; but it is worthy of remark that they lay in no particular order in reference to the compass, but, if anything, rather inclined to south and north—indeed, one of them lay exactly in that direction.

BOYLE v. WISEMAN.—This never-ending case has been again brought before the public. In the Court of Exchequer, on Monday, Mr. Serjeant Shee moved for a new trial, upon the grounds—first, that certain evidence was improperly admitted; secondly, that material evidence was rejected; thirdly, on the ground of misdirection by the judge; and fourthly, that the damages were excessive. In order that the matter may upon some future occasion be fully discussed, the court granted a rule nisi upon the first and fourth grounds.

SIR HENRY DE LA BECHE died on the 13th instant at ten o'clock. He was director of the Geological Survey, of the Museum of Practical Geology, and of the Government School of Mines.

INJURY FROM ELEPHANTS.—A keeper attached to a travelling menagerie now at Manchester, having, while drunk, gone into the elephants' den to sleep, was trampled upon and much crushed, but was rescued, with two broken ribs, and other injuries. He himself says that one of the elephants, lying down to rest, came with all his body, weighing 70 cwt., upon him, and that there was no intentional attack.

THE CROPS, aided by the late fine weather, are beginning to put on a favourable appearance; but, owing to the length and severity of the winter, they are necessarily very backward.

ACCIDENT TO EARL GRANVILLE.—The President of the Council has been thrown from his cab, and much shaken; but he received no injuries of importance.

JERUSALEM.—Accounts from Jerusalem to the 19th speak at some length of sanguinary hostilities which have for some time been carried on between Abou-Goch and the Scheik Laham, chiefs of Arab tribes in Palestine, owing to rival pretensions to domination in the western part of Judea. A letter of the above date says: "After much bloodshed, and after ravaging their respective districts, the two enemies, by the intervention of the Turkish Pacha of Jerusalem, consented to a sort of truce; but Abou-Goch, in a few days violated it, and, invading some of the villages occupied by the partisans of the Scheik, murdered several persons, sacked houses, extorted money, and committed other excesses. Amongst the villages which he ravaged was that of Beit Safa, at only a few miles' distance from Jerusalem. The proceedings of the man had occasioned great terror in that city, and the French Consul had joined the Turkish Pacha in attempting by negotiation to induce him to put an end to them. A man named Giorgias Echer, who took an active part in the riots at Beit Djalah, which were got up against the catholics, and who fired at the Abbé Moretain, a missionary, as he was celebrating mass, has been arrested; he had for some time before been concealed in a Greek convent. He now remains here in prison."

FOUR INCENDIARY FIRES IN ONE NIGHT NEAR ST. IVES.—The village of Needingworth, near St. Ives, has been nearly destroyed by a succession of fires evidently the work of an incendiary. Four perfectly distinct conflagrations broke out within about an hour of each other, and consumed several barns and granaries containing valuable farm produce and implements, a great many cottages, one or two substantial houses, and several hay-stacks and out-houses. The fires were at length got under; but the damages are estimated at nearly 6000*l.*, and the poor are great sufferers. A man is in custody on suspicion.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH BILL.—A meeting in opposition to this contemplated measure was held at Birmingham on Friday week. Two resolutions, setting forth that the bill would destroy local self-government, and that it would materially injure, and in some cases totally suppress, various trades, were unanimously passed.

THE WEST INDIES.—By the last West India mails we have dates up to the commencement of April, but no news of importance. All the islands are reported healthy. Trade in Jamaica was dull. At Granada, the crops had been somewhat interrupted by rain. The Panama railway is in full action as far as Panama. Subscriptions were collecting, both at St. Jago and Valparaiso, towards the Patriotic Fund. The President of Nicaragua died on the 12th of March. It was supposed that General Coral, commander of the forces, would be president. General Castello still holds out at Leon, and there is very little prospect of a termination to the war. On the 22nd of March, the Star of the South, United States steamer, was at Grey Town, with instructions that no passengers were to be landed on the Grey Town side, and no letters to be delivered there. Her Majesty's ship Devastation was lying at Grey Town. A robbery of 60,000 dollars' worth of gold-dust, on its way to Carthagena for shipment to Europe, has been committed.

THE LATE FALL OF A BRIDGE AT BRISTOL.—The inquest on William Cooksley, one of the sufferers by the late catastrophe at Bristol, has terminated in a verdict of Accidental Death. Three out of the fifteen jurors, however, were opposed to this verdict. The captain and the mate said the vessel could have been brought up in time had not certain mooring-posts been removed. A policeman stated that he believed the posts had been broken off accidentally the same morning by a tug-boat.

LORD CLANRICARDE.—A pamphlet has been published by Mr. Dalton, of Cockspur Street, under the title of "An Inquiry into the Truth of the Accusations made against the Marquis of Clanricarde in the cause of Handcock v. Delacour." The *Morning Post* says that this pamphlet "confirms the facts, as well as the general tenor, of Lord Clanricarde's affidavit. The only evidence (if evidence it can be called) of the paternity of the boy Delacour is destroyed by the affidavit of Mrs. Kennedy. The diary of Miss Handcock is strong evidence that the home of these young ladies was not an unhappy one; and the letters of Honoria (written in 1851, the year in which she executed the disputed deed) show not only that mutual affection subsisted between her mother and herself, but that she entertained feelings towards the boy Delacour quite at variance with the dislike and enmity ascribed to her." We give these assertions on the authority of our contemporary, not having seen the pamphlet itself.

THE FRENCH EMPEROR AND THE CHARTISTS: RUMOUR ATTEMPT TO ASSASSINATE THE EMPEROR.—Yesterday, three working men, Chartists, were brought up at the Mansion House, charged with distributing in the City, on the occasion of the Emperor's visit, a hand-bill denouncing Napoleon III. as "a murderer, an oath-breaker, and a destroyer of the French and Italian Republics." Mr. Ernest Jones appeared for the accused, who were remanded for a week. Bail was put in for one of them by an Italian. As the Emperor was returning from Guildhall, and passing under the triumphal arch

on Constitution-hill, a foreigner stepped towards the carriage, and threw a letter in at the window. He was immediately arrested, under the belief that he had made an attempt at assassination; but a messenger was sent from the Palace, with an intimation that the document contained nothing offensive, and that, consequently, it was the Emperor's wish that the man should be discharged. This was accordingly done. He is a Frenchman, and described himself as a doctor of medicine.

ANOTHER LADY CHARGED WITH STEALING.—A case, very similar in the allegations to that of Mrs. Ramsbotham, has been heard at the Guildhall, Hereford. A Mrs. Roberts was charged with stealing certain silk handkerchiefs from a shop; but, the evidence being somewhat contradictory, the prisoner was discharged.

THE FESTIVAL OF THE EMPIRE.—On Friday, the town was edified by placards—not ironical, but simply commercial—announcing that the civic feast in honour of Louis Napoleon had surpassed in splendour every public banquet "since the age of Tiberius." Were it not prudent to avoid comparisons of this nature? A parallel is supplied, no doubt, between the political condition of France as it is, and that of Rome as it was, when it sunk under the Empire; but, at present, hard truths are not to be spoken. Landor says, "Better find a ghost than a resemblance." At all events, they do a very ill office to the Emperor Louis Napoleon who suggest the identity which exists between his régime and that of latter-day Rome.

SICKNESS IN THE CRIMEA, 1839.—"Accounts from Constantinople state that the Russian troops at Sebastopol and its neighbourhood were sadly suffering from illness, particularly from the ophthalmia, which presented all the symptoms of the Egyptian disease. Upwards of 7000 sick were lying in the hospitals."—From the *Times Newspaper*, 25th September, 1839.

PROFESSOR EDLUND, a Swedish savant, is said to have succeeded in so improving the construction of the electric telegraph apparatus, that it becomes possible to send messages by the same wire simultaneously in two opposite directions.—*Builder*.

Postscript.

LEADER OFFICE, Saturday, April 21.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE BUDGET.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER brought forward his financial statement. He began by apologising for the late period at which it was brought forward, on the ground that it would have been less satisfactory if it had been produced very soon after the formation of a new Government; and also on account of the proceedings of the Conference at Vienna, which might have had an effect on the arrangement of the finances. He then referred to the estimate for the expenses and revenue of the year just past by Mr. Gladstone. The estimate of the revenue of last year was 53,449,000*l.* The product of the new taxes then contributed, with the ordinary taxes previously in operation, Mr. Gladstone estimated at 59,496,000*l.*, and the receipts had been 59,496,144*l.* With the unfunded debt, the revenue was 66,621,667*l.*, and the expenditure was 65,692,962*l.*, leaving an excess of 928,700*l.* Much of the fruits of the new taxation had not yet been received, but when it was, there would be an excess of revenue over the estimate by more than 1,000,000*l.* The estimate for the coming year was as follows:—For the Funded Debt, 27,974,000*l.*; the Army, 16,314,000*l.*; Navy, 16,000,000*l.*; Ordnance, 7,000,000*l.*; and he proposed to take a vote of credit for the military service of 3,000,000*l.* The Civil Service would be about 6,000,000*l.*, making a total for the service of the country of 52,175,000*l.*, which, with the interest of the debt, would amount to 86,000,000*l.*, and a half, including 1,000,000*l.* for the Sardinian Loan. The expenditure of the last year of peace for Navy, Army, and Ordnance, was 16,487,000*l.* Last year it was 30,131,000*l.* This year it would be 43,673,000*l.* His estimate of the product of the various sources of taxation for the coming year was, in the total, 63,339,000*l.* He proposed, in order to meet the expenditure, to leave a margin of about 6,000,000*l.*, making the total estimated expenditure of 86,000,000*l.* and a half. A deficit of 23,000,000*l.* was therefore to be supplied, and he had to consider the ways and means to meet it. It had been proposed that the entire expenditure of a war should be met by the taxation of the year, and that the Government should not be allowed by loans to tax posterity. But the experience of this and all countries showed the impossibility of at once meeting war expenditure by taxation; and even if it were the abstraction of the saving of the middle and industrial classes by excessive taxation, it was a far greater evil than the abstraction of capital by means of loans; taxes which crippled industry and interfered with industrial pursuits were more injurious than the abstraction of capital. The principle adopted by Mr. Pitt was

that of increased taxation, accompanied at the same time by loans; its results should be a warning against straining the taxable capabilities of the people. The Government had therefore determined to resort to a loan. He then traced the history of the National Debt from its beginning at 10,000,000*l.* in 1700, and its increase at different periods till 1816, when it stood at 816,000,000*l.*; and in last year it stood at 751,000,000*l.*, being a reduction of nearly 65,000,000*l.* He urged that in any system of loans means should be taken to prevent the permanent increase of the National Debt; but, at the same time, something like a perpetuity of debt was forced on the Government by the requirement of the lenders, who were desirous of having a property, which being perpetual, was so much the more valuable, and therefore, more disposable. He next dealt with the principle of a Sinking Fund, and pointed out its fallacious nature. He then referred to the plan of loans by means of terminable annuities, and admitted that it had some advantages, inasmuch that repayment of the interest was the subject of a specific contract between the Government and the lenders. But it was found that a terminable annuity was scarcely marketable—and there was no example of an entire loan being effected on that principle; but such annuities were always combined with a perpetual loan. However the Government might have desired to effect their loan by means of terminable annuities, they had no power to obtain the sum they required except on exorbitant and unjustifiable terms. The Government, therefore, proposed, in order to prevent a perpetual debt in contracting a loan, to set aside 1,000,000*l.* a year applicable to the repayment of the debt now about to be contracted, and a clause would be inserted, the act making it incumbent on every Government to provide that sum for repayment so long as Parliament should leave that act unrevoked. This he thought should be provided in time of peace by means of a surplus created by taxation—and that he laid down as the distinction between his plan and a sinking fund. He proceeded to state the increased taxation which in the last war accompanied the loans which were raised for the military service of the country. He proposed, therefore, to make an addition to the taxation of the year of 5,300,000*l.* To raise that he proposed an addition to the duties on sugar of 3*s.* per cwt., which would produce 1,300,000*l.*, which the article he thought could bear, in consequence of the price having gone down to the consumer 3*s.* a cwt. in the last year—the importation having largely increased. He proposed to add to the present duty on coffee of 3*d.* a lb. another penny, making the duty 4*d.* a lb., which would produce 150,000*l.* He also proposed the duty on tea from 1*s.* 6*d.* to 1*s.* 9*d.*, which would produce 750,000*l.*, making a total of additional revenue of 2,000,000*l.* He proposed to put a stamp-duty on cheques, and remove the exemptions they at present enjoy, and it would produce 200,000*l.* With regard to Excise duties he should add a duty on spirits only. He should assimilate the duty on Scotch spirits to that on English spirits. He did not propose to equalise the duty on Irish spirits, on account of the circumstances of Ireland, but to raise it to 6*s.* a gallon. He estimated the new duty on spirits to produce at least 1,000,000*l.* All these additions would reach to 3,300,000*l.* In order to meet the remainder of the sum required, it was necessary to add to direct taxation. Last year there was an increase in direct taxation of more than double that received as indirect taxation. He should propose a different principle, and place a less burden on direct taxation. The only direct taxes of any magnitude were the house-tax and the assessed taxes. The house-tax, if raised, could not produce more than 1,000,000*l.* In fact, the house-tax and assessed were only a species of income-tax, and the Government thought the best form of direct taxation was the income-tax, and the remaining 2,000,000*l.* requested was to be raised by simply adding 1 per cent. to the present rate of income-tax—that is, 2*d.* in the pound could be added to the present rate of 14*d.* in the pound. This sum of 5,300,000*l.* thus raised would complete the means required for the service of the year. The right honourable gentleman then went into a statement of the condition of the trade of the country, and its capability of bearing taxation; and urged that his whole plan should be considered together, and exceptions not taken to isolated parts of it. He then explained the terms on which the loan was to be contracted, and contrasted them with those of loans in former years, showing that the creation of Stock would not be so ruinously disproportionate as was the case during the last war. He concluded by placing the resolutions embodying the Loan in the Chairman's hands.

Mr. LAING urged that the House should not too hastily commit itself to the adoption of the principle of the proposed Loan. He objected to the indirect taxation proposed, and the required deficit could have been raised by a nine per cent. Income Tax.

Mr. GLADSTONE expressed a wish that the part of the resolution relating to the repayment of the loans should not be passed, as it would bind Parliament to those exact terms. In a lengthened speech he

stated that, although he still held his former opinions with regard to meeting the expenses of the war by taxation raised in the current year, and objected to loans, yet he was aware that doctrine must have its limits, and he was prepared to accede to a loan.

A discussion followed of no great interest, and the resolutions were agreed to.

The House adjourned at eleven o'clock.

The House of Lords sat for a very short time, and nothing of importance came before them.

DESPATCH FROM LORD RAGLAN.

The *Gazette* of yesterday evening contains the annexed despatch from Lord Raglan:—

"Before Sebastopol, April 7.

"MY LORD,—Some interchange of troops has taken place since I addressed your Lordship on the 31st ult.

"Battalions and considerable convoys have entered the town, and other bodies of troops have been sent to leave the north side. The garrison has been constantly engaged in adding to the works, and particularly in connecting the rifle pits in the immediate front of our right attack; and, as we have pushed forward, the fire upon our advance has occasioned more loss, I deeply regret to say, than we have sustained since the sortie of the 23rd of March.

"Lieutenant Bainbridge, of the Royal Engineers, was I lament to have to add, killed on the morning of the 4th April, whilst in the execution of his duty, by the bursting of a shell.

"He was a young officer of much promise, and though he had not long been here, he had acquired the esteem and good opinion of his brother officers, and his loss is greatly deplored by all.

"I inclose the return of casualties up to the 5th inst.

"I have, &c.,

"RAGLAN.

"The Lord Panmure, &c., &c."

THE WAR.—TELEGRAPHIC DESPATCHES.

Marseilles, April 18.

The navigation of the Danube is now free. The Russians permit all ships to pass.

Ships are being taken up at Constantinople for cargoes of corn.

There have been violent storms in the Black Sea. Six brigs, Turkish and Wallachian, have been wrecked even in the roadstead of Varna.

Vienna, April 18.

The new instructions received from St Petersburg by Prince Gortschakoff do not admit of the acceptance of the Third Point as interpreted by the Allied Powers.

The Glasgow, screw-steamer, from Marseilles to the Crimea, has put into Zante, with 130 horses dead. No further particulars.

THE IMPERIAL VISIT TO THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

THE Emperor and Empress of the French, accompanied by her Majesty and Prince Albert, visited the Crystal Palace yesterday. They reached the Palace about half-past twelve, and were received by the Directors. The holders of tickets for the day, and of season tickets, were excluded from the palace while the Royal and Imperial party visited the building from end to end. A procession was formed, headed by the Empress of the French with Prince Albert, the Queen with the Emperor, the French Ambassador, and the Countess Walewska, and the Royal and Imperial suites, followed by the chief officers of the Crystal Palace. As each court was visited the Chief of that department was called forward and presented to the Emperor and Empress by the Queen. The attention of the Empress was naturally attracted by the Alhambra Court, so exquisitely reproduced by Mr. Owen Jones, and she expressed her pleasure with unaffected vivacity. A sort of allegorical construction in the transept had been erected in honour of the event, but it did not contribute very successfully to the decorations of the Palace, which was never seen to more advantage. The park was thronged by "guinea-ticket" visitors, who cheered vociferously when the imperial and royal party of four appeared on the balcony which had been specially erected by Sir Charles Fox to contain that sacred number. The Emperor and Empress, with the Queen and Prince Albert, left the Palace on their return to town soon after three o'clock, when the public were admitted. The Emperor and Prince Albert were dressed in *bourgeois*. The Queen looked remarkably well; and the Empress Eugénie, exquisitely dressed, won all hearts by her graces and her smiles.

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NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

ERRATUM in our last:—In the article: "The Imperial Visit," page 344, column 1, an important typographical omission destroyed the sense of a passage. For "no ruler has died during a century," read "no ruler has died undisturbed during a century."

During the Session of Parliament it is often impossible to find room for correspondence, even the briefest. No notice can be taken of anonymous communications. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer; not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of his good faith. Communications should always be legibly written, and on one side of the paper only. If long, it increases the difficulty of finding space for them. We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

The Leader.

SATURDAY, APRIL 21, 1855.

Public Affairs.

There is nothing so revolutionary, because there is nothing so unnatural and convulsive, as the strain to keep things fixed when all the world is by the very law of its creation in eternal progress.—DR. ARNOLD

THE RECEPTION.

THE EMPEROR OF THE FRENCH came to a country which the *Times* placards as the home of immoral ambition to receive the worship due to his success. That worship has been enthusiastically paid. Court, aristocracy, statesmen, municipalities, literature, journalism, mobs have been alike at his feet. His progress was one vast acclamation as he moved towards the temple of English aristocracy at Windsor to receive the order which was worn by WELLINGTON. He received it at the same moment that CANTILLON received his hire. In the midst of that splendid triumph over morality and honour he may well have said in his heart "There is no God."

To the reception at Windsor nothing was wanting but the blood of English peasants, which our aristocracy shed like water, and the millions which they wrung from the toil of peasant hands to put down Bonapartism in the person of NAPOLEON I., and to restore legitimacy in the person of LOUIS XVIII. If the aristocrats and clergy of England would be Napoleonist with a clear honour and a good conscience, they must first make restitution. Then they may offer incense with clear hands at the altar of lawless ambition.

But we must be just to the mass of our people. They see in LOUIS NAPOLEON only the representative of France and of the French alliance. To them, who read and reflect but little, the *coup d'état* is long past, and Cayenne far distant. From France they hear no murmur of discontent. They see in the Emperor the only French ruler who has had the sense, and perhaps the magnanimity, firmly to grasp the hand of England, so long held out, so often waywardly and jealously repulsed. Let French constitutional statesmen who have traded in Anglophobia mark the lesson, and moralise on the past. Let all Frenchmen mark that while a part of this homage is rendered by Tories to lawless despotism, or by courtiers to power, by far the greater part is rendered by the English people to the name and friendship of France. Let reason prolong that connexion, so pre-

cious to humanity, which the necessities of ambition have commenced. Let Waterloo be forgotten: the BONAPARTE who planned the expedition to the Crimea, and extorted the Garter for himself, has sufficiently avenged that day.

One word on our journalists. We do not wish to waste indignation on the *Times*, which is generally excellent as a commercial speculation in opinion, though it wants art in its transitions. But Europe must not think that it represents our morality, or even our endurance. The principles which, to cover its own conduct, it puts forth as national, are revolting to a nation not always true to reason, but always true to law and duty. And when, breaking through the silence which it might easily have preserved as an independent journal, leaving behind even the language of official compliment, it lays at the feet of a great criminal a sophistical justification for his crimes, written by the hand which once furiously denounced them, there is no English heart, however Bonapartist, which does not answer with disgust. LOUIS NAPOLEON has reason to scorn all mankind; but even he may feel especial scorn for the adulation of the *Times*.

WHAT OF AUSTRIA?

To all appearances, the Cabinet of Vienna hesitates to fulfil the responsibilities of the Western alliance against Russia. In fact Austria can scarcely be said to have occurred in the object for which the diplomats of Great Britain and France contended at Vienna. While, therefore, the attitude of so great a power remains a matter of uncertainty, it is impossible to measure the future developments of the war, or to indicate in what direction it may next be carried. In the serious discussion of politics, however, proper weight must be allowed to the reasons which have induced our statesmen to make sacrifices in order to secure this alliance. Austria is a first-rate power, occupying a geographical position of the highest importance, and maintaining an army of five hundred thousand men. Such an empire will have its influence in peace or war; it can neither be ignored nor despised. Consequently, the Allied Governments have, to some extent, been guided in their general policy by the necessities of their connexion with Austria, and they have thus, indubitably, lost time, opportunity, and reputation. But whatever course the ministers of FRANCIS JOSEPH adopt, the result must seriously affect the issue of the contest now in suspense.

It has been agreed by statesmen to make this a political war, and not a conflict of principles. Representing the political system of Europe, they could not determine otherwise. Therefore their policy was to harmonise the action of the several powers, so as to prevent new elements from coming upon the scene. Could Austria be secured the plan might be successful; even her neutrality, if possible, would diminish the period of contingent revolution; and it was perfectly fair for statesmen, avowing their hostility to such a change in the spirit of the war, to exhaust precautions against it.

But, on the other hand, the position of Austria is difficult. It must be admitted that her Government has a right to regard the importunities of France and England, as well as those of Russia, from a selfish point of view,—and "selfish" in such a case means "patriotic." While, therefore, the French and English Governments have an important stake in the war, Austria could not enter upon it without hazarding her very existence. We, as a nation, know pretty well the extent of our risk. She, on the contrary, would not incaleculable forces in motion, and commit her-

self to an issue of life or death. Besides, in taking up arms for a British policy, Austria would reverse her traditions. Along the Danube her diplomacy has played a part all but identical with that of Russia. Her diplomatic action, her guarantees, her navigation privileges, have given lessons to her great neighbour. Indeed, her present attitude, half-neutral, has been of material advantage both to herself and to Russia. She has interposed a military line between the Turks and their invaders, who, thus relieved from guarding the Danubian frontier, have been available for the defence of the Crimea. She has also gained a footing in the Principalities—such a footing as her statesmen have striven for during the better part of a century. If, in this way, according to her mode of viewing it, she gains in peace all she could hope from war, is it not clear that her Government has reasonable grounds for avoiding, as long as practicable, the unknown dangers of a collision with Russia?

It is true that Austria may "drift" into the war exactly as we drifted into it; and this unforeseen compulsion may multiply the political dangers of her situation. Yet, if she be to blame for this, our Government and that of France are to blame equally, since both were hurried into action by influences which they sought with desperate tenacity to control. Perhaps it is the destiny of the Russian war to involve all Europe, without preparing any government for the perils which await it. Of this, at least, we may be sure, that the first Austrian musket fired disperses every doubt. No one, fortunately, can be neutral in arms, and we shall then know the value of the alliance, if it be gained; still more, perhaps, if it be lost.

Probably, however, one of the German Powers, in the event of a universal war in Europe, would range with Great Britain and France. The divisions of Germany—illustrated by the armaments of 1849—scarcely allow of an Austrian and Prussian alliance for objects of war. It may be, as some suggest, that the Protestant element in Prussia has more natural affinity with us than the Catholicism of Austria; but the dynastic ties between the houses of ROMANOFF and HOHENLINDEN are superior, in this instance, to national tendencies, and France, it must be remembered, is officially Catholic. Other things being settled, the subjects of FRANCIS JOSEPH might fight, without a violent anomaly, by the side of those who are governed by the Pope's protector.

THE NON-NATIONAL LOAN.

We are astonished to hear that persons who might usually be expected to be informed on such subjects, "do not understand" the exact nature of the Government proposal on the subject of the loan. The confusion appears to be suggested by the use of the name "Terminable annuities," applied to the peculiar kind of premium which the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER offers to the subscribers. It is a proposal, we believe, without an exact precedent. In the Budget of 1794, Mr. PITT "proposed to raise a loan of 11,000,000*l.*, in which for every 100*l.* money the lenders were to receive 100*l.* stock in Three per Cent. Consols, 25*l.* stock Four per Cents., and 11*l.* 5*s.* Long Annuities: a complicated arrangement intended to attract custom. The present plan is not quite so entangled. For every 100*l.* paid down, the lenders are to receive 100*l.* stock in Three per Cent. Consols, and a terminable annuity, now determined by the bidding of those who contract for the loan to be 1*s.* 6*d.* per 100*l.* This annuity would last for thirty years. In other words, Government asked the lender

what amount of annuity spread over thirty years would induce them to advance 100*l.* for 100*l.* of Three per Cent. stock, instead of taking their gains out of the discount, which purchasers of stock claim when they purchase in the usual way. We cannot perceive any difficulties in understanding this plan.

To understand it and to approve of it are totally different things. While we can understand the Government plan, it forces us to doubt whether the Government understands the country with which it is dealing. It is proposing that which is not a City scheme, and not a popular scheme. It has neither thrown itself upon the Stock Exchange nor upon the country. From the opinions that have been expressed, even in the great building in Cornhill, it is apparent that Government might have raised at least a portion of the money in Terminable Annuities—that is, for a comparatively slight increase of the interests paid at present; they would have contracted a debt, not to last for ever, but absolutely determined, say at the end of thirty, or forty, or fifty years. It has been calculated that if Mr. PITT had so arranged his debts, we might have been free at the present moment from the burdens that he bequeathed to us.

Ministers, indeed, have endeavoured to avoid one of his faults. He did not hesitate to accept any terms which were offered in the market; and the effect was, that while during the eight years of the first war terminating in 1801 he contracted a debt of 336,000,000*l.*, besides that which he found in existence, he received for that debt only 223,000,000*l.* in money. He has found a well-informed apologist in Mr. WILLIAM NEWMARCH, who contends that PITT could not have done better; and to prove it, he cites the difficulties of the time, the war, the dearth of bread, and the depressed quotations in the money market. But it is obvious that the quotations in the money market were influenced by two circumstances, originating with Mr. PITT himself. One was a firm belief that the French were continually about to approach the end of their resources, and that to play high was to terminate the game promptly. "So," he said in December, 1794, nearly five years before the termination of the first war, "I have even the authority of TALLIEN for saying that the French cannot maintain their assignats without contracting their expenses and diminishing their forces; and it should be recollected that this is their only resource. Is it then too much to say, that their resources are nearly at an end?"

The other circumstance was, that when PITT set going this lavish system of creating debt, he gave the first impulses to that tremendous depreciation that afterwards hampered him in the course of his finance. This it was, even more than the ill-managed bargain of any particular year, which constituted Mr. PITT a bad Finance Minister. He recklessly threw burdens upon posterity, but he also allowed the financial speculators to see that he was in a panic, and was bitten with the mania for reckless gambling.

No wonder, then, that, like the heir of an entailed estate in a gaming house, with Jews at his back, he ran up a tremendous score of debt, and called upon us to be responsible for 133,000,000*l.* without a penny ever received by the country; besides further burdens afterwards incurred in the same manner. This fault the present Government has avoided.

But it has fallen short even of Mr. PITT in the confidence which it has displayed in the public. If PITT was reckless, at least he tried to find out what the City were prepared to do. Now it is evident that the City were prepared to advance money upon annuities

which, by terminating, would secure the extinction of the debt at a fixed period. PITT, we venture to think, would have seized upon that proposal. LEWIS has passed it by in indifference, or did not know its existence. To what are we to ascribe this financial blindness? Is it that the accomplished gentleman who has been called from one avocation to edit the Budget is more familiar with books than with money matters? Is it that he can read Mr. NEWMARCH in the closet—can consult the precedent of the debt, and, perhaps, try to suck the brains of some stray financier, but does not really know so much of the honest patriotism and genuine frank liberality that really do reside in the great building on Cornhill?

The Finance Minister of despotic Austria and the French usurper threw themselves on the body of the people, seeking the loan, not by contract, but by the subscriptions of the people; and both succeeded beyond expectation—beyond all necessity. But as Ministers have failed to throw themselves on the people in regard to the defence of the country,—as they prefer a kind of protracted militia, raised from a very limited class to a national militia,—so they neglect to throw themselves on the country when they are in want of means. They would rather screw it out of the people by compulsory taxes, and give the benefit with the job of lending to great contractors, than deal direct with those from whom, after all, the money must come! This is remarkable. Must we ascribe it to the arbitrary conduct, or the inveterate habit of jobbing? Not at all. We impute it to ignorance. We believe that it is the result of the exclusive habits of our Ministers, who, whether they are dealing in a question of the franchise, or of national defence, or of national expenditure, mistrust the people, because they do not know them, and prefer to deal exclusively with the cliques who come nearest to them, and are prepared to approach them with cringing facilities. It is that aristocracy hauteur, that exclusive shyness, which is here paying its penalty in finance as well as in everything else.

MIDDLE CLASS STATESMEN AND THE ARMY.

THE leaders of the middle classes have hitherto assumed an attitude at once undignified and unwise towards the army. Mr. CORBET and Mr. BRIGHT, by their conduct on military questions, have unhappily exposed themselves to a good deal of not unjust ridicule, which it is painful to us to see poured upon them by men incomparably inferior to them in character and capacity. They have persuaded themselves that the war spirit and the causes of war are really extinct among nations; that wars are brought about only by the folly of statesmen and the bickerings of diplomatists; and that the army is a simple social nuisance, kept up by the aristocracy as a maintenance for their younger sons. And therefore their only thought is, if possible, to get rid of the army altogether; and if it is not possible to get rid of it, then to reduce its expenses as low as possible, without the least regard to its efficiency or even its composition. They take no part in any attempt to correct its abuses, to purify its patronage, to elevate its moral tone, to secure the respectability, and with it the civil character of the soldier. All this, and the credit of all this, they leave to other hands; while they remain in a state of impracticable isolation, preaching peace when we are actually engaged in war, and affording only too much handle to the pleasantries of flippant and interested censors.

Statesmen must look at facts; no one can

look at facts and fail to see that the extreme peace party, whether they are right or wrong as to the future, are wrong as to the present. Never probably in any age or nation did the war spirit run higher than it did in England at the commencement of this war. Look at the subscriptions to the Patriotic Fund. Look at the enthusiasm which followed the troops. Look at the crowds round the pictures of Alma and Inkerman in the print-shop windows. Look at the newspapers, which collectively, if not individually, are a good index of public opinion, and mark the torrents of brag and bluster which they pour forth, and the swaggering threats which they are uttering at this moment against any minister who shall venture to show himself conscious of our real position. The peace orators have totally failed to make head against the tide; they have only chafed it. And what security can they possibly have that this spirit will not break out again on the first affront, or apprehension of an affront, to our national honour? The old ADAM will be too strong for the young BRIGHT for many a day to come.

Besides, even if progressive civilisation were likely to extinguish the war spirit in England within any calculable time, our aversion to war would not produce the same aversion in our neighbours. Nothing could be more pacific than the declining Byzantine Empire; but unfortunately its pacific tendencies were not reciprocated by the Vandals and the Turks, and it wanted the only instrument which could have disposed Vandals and Turks to peace—an efficient and formidable army. Europe is full of great standing armies, kept up by despots and liberticides for their despotic and libetricide purposes. Any one of these crowned conspirators, or the whole combined, may any day pick a quarrel with us for the sake of plunder or "glory," or from hatred to those free institutions whose very breath is pestilential to oppressors. We must be provided against this as a man travelling through dangerous roads would be provided with arms against robbers, though carrying arms in itself may be a barbarism and a nuisance. As freedom recovers herself, and begins to spread again through Europe, this danger will, of course, decrease, and the mutual reduction of armaments will become a feasible, as it is always a rational object of diplomacy. But in the mean time we must be prepared to guard the ark in which European freedom has taken refuge, and this can only be done by letting Cossacks of all kinds know, that if they attack us they will get as good as they bring. Mr. BRIGHT himself need not have been ashamed to wear the laurels of MARATHON.

We must have a sword; and as we must have a sword, we had better have it sharp. A militia, like that of America, is the natural and the best defence of a free country. But even America, though separated by the Atlantic from the great military despotisms, finds it necessary to keep a small standing army; and we cannot be safe without a larger nucleus of regular troops and professional commanders.

If, as it appears, we must make up our minds to regard this standing army at present, and probably for a long time to come, as one of the necessary institutions of the country, it becomes the duty of all public men to learn to understand it and to do their duty towards it, as they would in the case of any other acknowledged institution. Neglect of it is simply suicidal, and can only tend constantly to ostracise from office statesmen who are so unwise as to declare themselves impossible. You must do your best by the army as it stands; and the leaders of the

middle classes have plenty to do, and that not of an uncongenial or inappropriate kind. They are not called upon as civilians to ape the military character; their duty is to see that the administration of the army is just, economical, and efficient; to secure reward to merit; to keep down jobbing; to repress blackguardism; and, by taking care that the citizen is not lost in the soldier, to guard against those dangers to freedom which the mere principle of a standing army too frequently involves. The finest army that this or any other country ever possessed was that of CROMWELL; and CROMWELL'S army was a middle-class army, officered by men from the middle classes.

We know the value of peace to liberty as well as other interests; and we heartily honour Mr. CORDEN and Mr. BRIGHT for their exertions in the cause of peace. By continuing their exertions in the face of so much obloquy, they have shown more true courage, however inopportune, than they would have done by blustering for war. But we repeat it, statesmen must look at facts. One day, through the progress of civilisation and by the blessing of Heaven, universal peace may come upon the earth. But at present the world is full of the seeds of war. Fanaticism, cupidity, and piratical ambition are everywhere around us with the ready means of aggression in their hands. The most we can aspire to at present is never to take up arms except in a just cause; and when we are compelled to begin the struggle, to carry it on with generosity and chivalry, such as is falsely ascribed to the feudal butchers and robbers of the middle ages, and has been truly shown by our common soldiers in this war. The military character has its vices, but it has its virtues also; and Mr. BRIGHT must be twice a Quaker if he can shut his heart to heroism. By doing so he justifies a similar prejudice against the commercial character, which likewise has its moral infirmities. The factory may sometimes contain as much crime and misery as the camp. The gentler and better spirit of humanity struggles alike against War and Mammonism. Against both it struggles fitfully and weakly. Against both it must struggle long, we will not say for ever, in vain.

THE CAMBRIDGE BILL.

THE framers of the Cambridge Bill have copied the Oxford Bill in some respects as the Chinese copied the ship, dry-rot and all. The Oxford Bill gives a veto on the measures of the Commissioners to any College which can find two-thirds of its Fellows sufficiently attached to abuses to exercise it: and the Cambridge Bill faithfully repeats this melancholy provision. Checks and appeals abundantly multiplied are congenial to the English mind and acceptable to English legislators, especially if the appeal is from the right men to the wrong. But at least the Court of Appeal should be impartial. To charge a Commission with reforms, and give the very objects of those reforms a veto, is to enact a cumbrous nullity; an exemption in favour of incorrigibles would be at once more frank and more concise.

Government may hope that the same Parliament which passed the Oxford Bill will pass a copy of it; otherwise the structure of the Oxford Bill would scarcely have been worth copying. It was not an original and deliberate plan, but an extemporised substitute for a more complex measure which it was found impossible to carry through the House. The original measure went too much into detail. The substitute, running into the opposite extreme, settled nothing as regarded the Colleges, but left all to be de-

bated over again between the Colleges and the Commission, at great risk of miscarriage, and at the expense of a most needless repetition of argument and trouble. The question of local restrictions on fellowships, for example, was one which had been discussed to the very dregs. The academical world, and the few non-academics who paid any attention to the matter, were at length fairly landed in the conclusion that students ought to be elected to fellowships by industry and merit, not for having been born on the right side of a hedge. The bosom of Stupidity itself, though it quenches the lightnings of the gods, had been penetrated by a ray of conviction on this subject. But the Oxford Bill invites Stupidity to reopen the question with the Commission, and gives it an appeal to ignorance in the Privy Council, an appeal to faction in Parliament, and a veto of its own into the bargain.

The division of the initiative in College reform between two bodies is another bad feature in the Oxford Bill, which the Cambridge Bill reproduces. The Colleges have the initiative the first year; the Commissioners, by default, the next. This principle seems to be borrowed from the Tithe Commutation Act. But the subjects are not analogous. A commutation of Tithes is pretty much the same thing, whether it is initiated by the parties themselves or by Commissioners. But the reform of a College initiated by a Commission, may be a totally different thing from the reform of a College initiated by the College itself; and hence strange anomalies may be expected to result. Again, the commutation of Tithes in one district is quite independent of the commutation of Tithes in another, and may well be effected separately, and at a different time; but the reform of all the Colleges in a University, and the revision of their statutes, ought to proceed upon a general scheme, to which the simultaneous consent of all the Colleges would be required. This is obviously the case as regards the mutual abrogation of restrictions on fellowships, and common contribution to university purposes. And what is to be done with twin foundations like Winchester and New College, or Eton and King's? Are they to be dealt with separately, if one of them chooses to exercise its initiative and the other does not?

The chief point in which the Cambridge Bill departs from the Oxford Bill is the very important one of the University Constitution. The government is vested, or intended to be vested (for, according to some, the conveyance miscarries) in a Board consisting of four Heads elected by the Heads, four Professors elected by the Professors, and eight members of the Senate, elected, not by the University at large, but by the separate Colleges in turn, according to a certain cycle. This arrangement seems to us thoroughly vicious. Oxford has now a genuine representative government, and something like a deliberative assembly, though a sinister ingenuity has cramped the latter with a sarcastic provision that it shall not debate and vote on the same day. Cambridge deserved at least as much freedom. To keep up the cliques of Heads and Professors by making them separate interests, is to do pure mischief. One of the happiest results of the free constitution at Oxford has been to break up the clique of Heads. As to the Professors, they will probably soon ascend into Heaven; but if they deign to remain on earth, they ought to be content to stand on their own merits, which as yet are not of a very dazzling order in either University, instead of demanding to have constitutions packed for the immediate inauguration of their divinity.

The nomination of the third element by

the separate colleges in turn is defended on the ground that if the election were left free, Trinity and St. John's would monopolise all the places. Is Cambridge so puerile as this? Cannot she be trusted to choose her most eminent men without reference to colleges? If all the best men are at Trinity or St. John's, then Trinity and St. John's men ought to be elected till worthier spring up elsewhere. If there are already worthier elsewhere, the University ought to be trusted, and taught, to find them. Besides, Trinity and St. John's are rivals, and would counter-balance each other, as they do in ordinary elections. We hope Cambridge men will endeavour to vindicate their fitness to manage their own affairs according to the common principles of English freedom. The Government, no doubt, means well, and it ought not to be ashamed to listen to advice from those whose interests are involved.

THE SANITARY AND MEDICAL CONDUCT OF THE WAR.

OUR private letters from the camp in the Crimea contain very satisfactory intelligence of the proceedings of the Sanitary Commission. Our readers will remember that we directed attention to the appointment of this Commission as one of the most hopeful measures in the new administration of the war. It has lost no time in setting things in order at the hospitals at Scutari, Kulali, and Therapia. Sewers have been cleansed, trapped, and flushed; privies have been ventilated, deodorised, and cleansed; corridors and sick-wards have been cleansed, ventilated, and lime-washed; water-supplies have been improved; cisterns cleansed and roofed over; hospital-yards and the streets and land adjoining have been cleansed and reformed; surface-channels have been made, and scores of dead animals removed. The burials of the dead have been regulated, and the grave-surfaces covered and deodorised. The consequence of all this energy on the part of Mr. RAWLINSON and his colleagues is, that the hospitals are much healthier, and that a feeling of confidence has succeeded to recklessness and despair. So much for what has been already effected. But it is evident that this labour will be required so long as there is an army in the field, or a man in hospital, and that a sanitary staff must be permanently attached to the army in peace or in war.

What became of all the port wine and of all the quinine is a question that appears to defy solution. The same mystery surrounds the supply of "drugs" in general.

"Government," says one of our letters, "cannot be accused of not sending drugs. There is an amount enough to poison all the armies in Europe. 'If the Russians,' said a judicious doctor, 'would only take the pills furnished to the army, the shot and shell might be spared.'"

We take the liberty to suggest to some "independent" member the propriety of moving for a return of the quantity and cost of the drugs sent to the hospitals and army, as also the quantity administered or expended. "Some apothecary," says a letter now before us, "must surely have a friend at the War Office."

"N. V."—A PROBLEM.

ETHNOLOGY fails to do its duty by us. It professes to teach us the diversities of men, and cannot tell us why the inferior is greater than the superior. Could the exhibition of different races on Monday and Thursday give us any illustration of the obscure problem? Could the illuminations of Thursday night

throw any light upon the subject? To look at them, you would not say that those for whom the triumphal entry into the Royal Castle of the British Empire had been prepared were destined to be the masters of the world. Take the whole *cortège*, and there were but two objects that could command admiration—the Empress and the Dragoons. Cast them aside, and what was there in coach, or around it, that, ethnologically considered, was stupendous or admirable. The pageant, like all those that are bedizened with gold, had a tawdry look. The Royal outriders—a cross between the huntsman and the general postman—riding backwards and forwards like men that were making a business for themselves, having no real duties to perform, conferred upon the procession something of the grotesque and helpless, which was almost made odious by the society of a mounted *Préfet de Police*. PIETRI the fox-eyed was there, in company. In the first coach sat the fair EMPRESS, with the Elected of December by her side, and the wedded of QUEEN VICTORIA before her. The Chief Commissioner for the Hyde Park Exposition of 1851 was dressed in a Field-Marshal's uniform, and was radiant with satisfaction at the success of the marching and counter-marching to and from the railway-station. Is he a Field-Marshal? Has he ever marshalled a field? Did he look as if he could wield one army against another? A very comely man is Prince Albert, suited to grace a carriage or a Royal Commission; but what supremacy sits upon his brow that should distinguish him from many a well-grown man in the multitude? As to taking his place amongst the Guards that rode round his carriage, he is not quite tall enough, and he lacks that martial air which is required for the dragoon; though it is not needed for the "Field Marshal."

The Elected of December is a problem: his ethnology is obscure. A husband without progeny, he is an heir without a certified genealogy. After him came the Counts and Barons that form his suite and instruments. To judge by these coachfuls, France, you would say, is divided into two races—one formed of thick stout men, who would be stalwart if they were not fat; who would be handsome if they were not so snub-nosed; with round faces, curly hair, short necks, full chests, and a certain heavy lightness, a serious vanity, which combines pinguity with promptitude. This is a new race in France,—the parvenus who have advanced from the Bourse to the Palace, and who invest the vulgar with the dignified. The other race belongs to a past day, but had its specimens in the coaches. It is a tall race, with long face, longer nose, sunken cheeks, and a solemnity of countenance amounting to the austere and desponding. One burly specimen of the *novus homo* swells his chest, and gazes radiantly around, feeling that he is master of the situation; another visitor, a majestic specimen of the *vetus homo*, gazes with long-nosed solemnity and moveless eye upon the cheering crowd, as if the *vieille noblesse* were pondering the inexplicable problem of a modern mob unconstrained! Yet the *vieille noblesse*, suspected, disinherited, tried à la lanterne, still survives and asserts itself in the new régime. France is a strange country. Its other races, more numerous, were unrepresented in that procession. The not gigantic Gael, the irritable Breton, the semi-Spaniard of the South, the races who people the great kingdom, are not admitted to Court, and do not share its visits. France is a country peopled by one race of ancient origin, and adulterated by others from South and East; officered by a Frank minority from the North; and ruled by the Foreigner. Repeatedly has

it occurred that "the Fifth Element," the Italian, has been the Governor of the French. The occupation of Rome does not retaliate the oppression which MACCHIAVELLI has put upon the Grande Nation. A Corsican subdued it, and a Dutch shadow of a Corsican can hold it in subjection.

It would have been a fatal test for the English nation, had the French Emperor and his Spanish wife compared the multitude which they saw on entering London with a Paris concourse. The indolent circles of the labouring class were celebrating St. Monday; it was a concourse of idle apprentices, recruited by the *classes dangereuses*, with a large sprinkling of the mixed population of ease and business. On Thursday, when the Imperial pair went to the Guildhall, the comparison from the Paris point of view might more fairly be made; for London had turned out. The contrast was complete. That composite nation, which is ruled by foreigners, officered by Franks and manned by Gauls,—which not long since speculated upon the same march with a different kind of triumph,—could see the race whom it once proposed to conquer, and perhaps still speculates upon subduing. After and before came those Saxon descendants of the Norman invaders, who with the thin trace of Norman blood, seem to be losing the Norman capacity of rule; relinquishing the hold of aristocracy and power to the Saxon, who is incapable of producing either an aristocracy or a governing class. For your true Englishman lacks that love of mastering others which makes conquerors, statesmen, and "the great." He "cares for nobody, no not he," if nobody will interfere with him. He covets an allodial possession of the land, and he detests feudality. With that hereditary elect of peasants and Prætorians rode the aristocracy that has broken down at Sebastopol, marched the soldiers that cannot fight for want of officers; marched also the old Saxon warrior, "the constable" in new uniform; and on either side stood the people, that are reducing their own Government to a minimum, and look so jolly over the decline of their empire, because the Funds are above 90, and factory business is increasing faster than customers. Which of those composite races has the better of it? Which is ultimately to rule? Is it the Englishman, who cares for nobody, no not he, or the Frenchman, who believes that France is destined to rule the world? Waterloo failed to solve the problem: was it settled in crossing Waterloo-place?

RELIGIOUS ARRESTS IN SARDINIA.

ON the 18th of March, the police of Nice paid several domiciliary visits, and in particular searched the dwellings of M. Léon Filatte, and M. A. Gay, ministers of the Waldenses church in that town. They had been instructed to seize all Bibles and New Testaments found in the possession of the Protestant heretics, as well as any other works of a religious character. The only remarkable circumstances connected with this display of Romish intolerance, is that it took place in Sardinia. We had thought that the government of King Emmanuel was liberal enough to dispense with religious persecution, and strong enough to forbid it.

THE FOLEY-PLACE MURDER.—It has been ascertained that at the time of the murder of Mr. Joseph Latham by Buranelli at Foley-place, the former was possessed of 860*l.* in Bank of England notes. It is surmised that at the time he was murdered the above parcel was under his pillow, and that they were abstracted from there by some person during the confusion consequent on the horrible event. The numbers are known. A 100*l.* and a 10*l.* note have been paid into the Bank of England since the murder. A reward has been offered for the missing notes, or for information as to the person who paid the two notes into the Bank.

Literature.

Critics are not the legislators, but the judges and police of literature. They do not make laws—they interpret and try to enforce them.—*Edinburgh Review*.

THE two Quarterly Volumes bound in paper, neutral-green-grey, or blue and yellow, which perpetuate the traditions of Tory and Whig principles, present this month a fair reflex of the state of public affairs and public opinion, not only in the contents of each, but in the relation that they have to each other.

The *Edinburgh Review* is filled with glances at the collateral subjects of the day; coming to no perfect conclusion, but enlightening the present by the past, by science, travels, or philosophy, and closing with one great practical confession. Yet somehow it commences with putting itself in the wrong where Whigs always will be wrong—in the United States. It has a paper on Slavery, endorsing Mrs. HARRIET BECHER STOWE! Whigs never treat the Union with politeness, and the *Edinburgh*, after the statesmanlike fashion of its party, rakes up the sore point of the Republic, whose weight in the balance of power is so important just now! The article, however, is interesting, because it brings out a fair account of the Fugitive Slave Law and its working. It is imperfect, because it totally omits the compensating measures that accompanied that ugly-looking statute. "Travels in Siberia" opens a glimpse into that desolate part of Russia—too waste and wild, cold and dreary, to be the home even of a democracy for any purpose beyond its bounds. "English Surnames" are the subject of a very amusing paper, in which we find some strange mistakes; such as the adoption of a heavy joke, which derives "Bigod" from a habit of swearing, instead of its French origin of Pigault or Pigot. "Holland" is allotted to the foreign country of that name, instead of the Lincolnshire district called "the parts of Holland," so named from their topographical resemblance. "The Correction of Juvenile Offenders," "Huc's Travels in China," "A Memoir of Pascal Paoli the Corsican Chief," "The Chemistry of Common Life," "The Autocracy of the Czars," from the Russian antiquities to SCHNITZER, not forgetting the Secret Memoirs of PETER THE GREAT, and "Lord Brougham on Criminal Procedure," are subjects which speak for themselves. The confession is a grand review of the state of the army, which admits that, although reformers are frequently wrong in their proposals, reforms must come, if the army is to work. But when are the reforms coming? What number of the *Edinburgh* will record them as facts?

The *Quarterly* begins with "The Crystal Palace," and ends with "Public Affairs," touching, by the way, upon divers "Venetian Despatches," "Madame de Maintenon," "Food, and its Adulteration," "The Emperor Nicholas," "Forests and Trees," and "Sir Richard Steele." The last-named is a charming paper, carrying the reader back into the time when the *Tatler* and *Spectator* were written, and their writers lived. "Nicholas" is a personal memoir of that potentate, and his bodily constitution; a branch of history too frequently neglected. Could we but get medical men to give us leading articles derived from original information of this kind, how often might we trace political blunders to medical causes! How often would a Reform Bill be better applied in the shape of a prescription! How often should we learn the absolute necessity of stopping the reign of a race hopeless of regeneration. Why not have a medical commission of inquiry into the physiology of the Neapolitan BOURBONS?

"The Forester" is a hint to country gentlemen how to treat their timber, tenderly and wisely. "Madame de Maintenon"—a chapter, written with equal intelligence and sympathy, in the perpetual inquiry into that female problem, the wife and widow of the rheumatic SCARRON, the governess and secret wife in the family of LOUIS THE FOURTEENTH. "The Crystal Palace" is an impartial review of that building, its gigantic defects, splendid opportunities, and creditable efforts.

The two articles in these two reviews on Chemistry and Food, are, particularly together, a memorandum of more than passing interest. A single point in the chemical paper, illustrating the universal addiction either to intoxicating or narcotic drugs, or to warm diluents, not only makes us ask whether the teetotallers are wiser than the spirit-totallers, but calls up a fear that the diet of this country may be amongst the causes slowly tending to undermine the physical constitution of the people. It would not be the only cause tending that way. When we look to the other *Quarterly* we are reminded that the poisons detected, even in deadly proportions, amongst our food, by the commissioner of the *Lancet*, are still sold with our food by houses that were then exposed. We buy poison, and we know it, and we go on buying poison!

In Venice they had a plan of making their Ambassadors give reports upon the condition of the countries they visited. The reports were not equal to our consular returns in statistics; but they supplied the place of travelling and of books of travels, and threw great light upon the relations of the Republic with its allies or enemies. Some of these reports have survived, and they remain as useful contemporary materials for history. The *Quarterly* brings a few before us; and in doing so tells us certain things which we have forgotten. Such, for instance, as the fact—probable when told, though seldom remembered—that there was a time when HENRY THE EIGHTH

was young, comely, and agreeable. A modern historian has assailed him for having pretended to the German throne while he was a young man, because he was the confirmed and bloated profligate of his older years!

The paper on "Public Affairs," however, is the gem of the *Quarterly*; and why? Simply because in this Tory organ we find one of the most concise, intelligent, and impartial surveys of the politics for these last three months that it has been our fortune to read. While Whigs and re-fangled Disraelites are competing with each other in intrigue and cant, simple truth appears really to have taken refuge in the *Quarterly Review*. This is one of the wonderful events of modern days.

M. THIERS, we learn, has completed his *History of the Consulate and of the Empire*, which will close with the fifteenth volume. The twelfth volume will appear about the end of June. We shall be interested to know how the historian's enthusiasm has been affected by the French history of the last four years.

LAW REPORTS.

The Common Law and Equity Reports in all the Courts. Royal 8vo.

Reming. THERE are few of our readers who have not a friend "at the Bar," and have not heard of "the Reports," of their number, their cost, and their lamentable arrears. The subject has been discussed until it has become of general interest, and the more it has been canvassed the more clearly has it appeared that it affects us all.

A proper system of reporting the decisions of the Courts upon all cases adjudicated by the Judges is essential to the administration of justice. Without such a system there would be an absence of uniformity and certainty in their proceedings, which would cause much unnecessary litigation, with all its train of troubles, heartburnings, and jealousies. Like other British Institutions, however, the existing system of Reporting has grown spontaneously from the necessity of the case. There are no official Reporters, whose duty it is to publish, for the guidance of the Courts and profession, accurate summaries of the judgments pronounced upon novel combinations of facts, or upon the interpretations to be put upon the ambiguous and sometimes inconsistent language of the new Acts of Parliament, although these judgments have the force of law upon inferior tribunals, and the force of opinion upon those of equal rank.

The necessity for regular reports of all the Courts once having become evident, they were soon provided by the energy of individual Barristers, and so well and so accurately has the work been done, that, although without official sanction, their Reports of Cases have been accepted by the judges as accurate and binding. While we have suffered from the system, as affected by modern changes, we must acknowledge that the staff of Reporters did good service and did it well.

As years have rolled on, however, and the transactions of society have become more extensive, the Courts more numerous, and their decisions obtained with less delay, the demand upon the system which had grown, is must be remembered, from small beginnings, has become too much for it. An outlay of 30*l.* a year hardly suffices to supply the current volumes, while the acquisition of the accumulated series is almost hopeless. Add to this objection that the decisions of one year are hardly available until the expiration of another, and it has occurred that the delay in their publication has been of a more extended character. The only consolation for these serious evils has been that there must be a change.

Partial remedies have been from time to time attempted by the publication of Reports in the legal periodicals, but with only partial success, for notwithstanding the excellence of many of the Reports, there were objections which were incident to the periodical character, and which could not be overcome.

The volumes, whose general title is printed at the head of this notice, are the results of an attempt to establish a new system of reporting, and to realise those improvements which "our friends at the Bar" have been so long anticipating. The projectors of *The Common Law and Equity Reports* have abandoned the plan of a separate series of Reports for each Court. Instead of this, while in each they have a Reporter, and in some two, all of them members of the Bar, whose names and Inns are published, they class all the Reports under four heads: *Common Law, Equity, Bankruptcy and Insolvency, and Ecclesiastical and Admiralty*. They are pagged to correspond with these four divisions, and are issued from time to time, and as early as possible after the cases are determined, in parts; of course, at the end of the year, they can be bound in volumes.

We need not point out to our readers how superior in every respect is this plan, which admits, for instance, of the immediate issue of an Equity "Part," containing the latest decisions before all the six distinct Equity Tribunals, to waiting, term after term, until there have been cases enough before an individual Vice-Chancellor to make up a "part" of a separate series of Reports devoted to this Court alone. As an illustration of the improvement they can and do effect, the proprietors state, that within three months after the commencement of the series in April, 1853, Reports of no less than 249 cases, each, it must be observed, involving some point necessary to be known, were in the hands of the subscribers. Notwithstanding this rapidity, every care seems to have been bestowed upon the preparation of the cases, which, though concisely, are clearly and sufficiently reported. The success which has rewarded the projectors of the enterprise is the surest testimony of the excellence of the work, and this success has induced them to add to the yearly issue a volume of Reports of Cases determined at Quarter Sessions and before the County Courts, and a more important and more useful volume, which is to contain the statutes of each Session, those required by the profession being printed in full.

The continuance, in a style of equal excellence, of the *Common Law and Equity Reports* will be of great service to all concerned or interested in the administration of justice. Their plan is judiciously conceived and ably executed, and, if persevered in, it will command success.

In justice to the gentlemen whose labours are contained in the volumes before us, we must not close our notice without stating that Mr. W.

Heath Bennet, Mr. H. Cadman Jones, Mr. James Willis, Mr. William Hackett, Mr. George French, and Mr. A. A. Doria, are responsible for the several Equity Reports; Messrs. R. J. Corner and Edward Sykes for the Queen's Bench; Mr. W. F. Finlaison for the Common Pleas; Messrs. J. B. Dasset and Douglas Brown for the Exchequer; Mr. P. C. Gates for the Exchequer Chamber, the Bail Court, and the Court of Criminal Appeal; Dr. Spinks for the Ecclesiastical and Admiralty Courts; Mr. J. W. M. Fombisque for the Court of Bankruptcy; and Mr. G. H. Reed for that disagreeable place, the Insolvent Debtors Court.

A BATCH OF AMERICAN BOOKS.

The New Pastoral. By Thomas Buchanan Reed.

Lectures on English Literature. From Chaucer to Tennyson. By Henry Reed.

Costas de Espana; or, Going to Madrid via Barcelona.

A Long Look Ahead; or, the First Stroke and the Last. By A. S. Roe.

You Have Heard of Them. By Q.

Trübner and Co.

Trübner and Co.

Trübner and Co.

Trübner and Co.

The New Pastoral is a poem in blank verse. Mr. Thomas Buchanan Reed takes the rural poets of England for his models, mingling the familiar and natural style of the present day with a little of the florid and artificial manner of Thomson, and the school of poetry which he represents. The scene of *The New Pastoral* is in Pennsylvania, and the descriptions of natural objects are interwoven with a love-story, and varied agreeably by the introduction of rustic characters. Mr. Reed is, in no sense of the word, an original poet, either in form or idea. But he has the minor merits of an elegant fancy, a fine ear, and a careful hand; and there is a certain quiet attractiveness about his poem which ought to recommend it to all readers who are willing to accept musical versification and graceful thoughts, without looking too exactly for vigour of style and originality of idea besides.

The Lectures on English Literature have a strong claim on our respectful sympathy, for the volume in which they are contained is published under very melancholy circumstances. The lecturer, the late Mr. Henry Reed, was Professor of Rhetoric and English Literature in the University of Philadelphia, and was one among the three hundred passengers who perished in the shipwreck of the Arctic steam vessel. We have in the little book before us the first instalment of the Lectures which the Professor delivered at Philadelphia, edited and published by Mr. William B. Reed, out of an affectionate desire to enlarge the public knowledge and perpetuate the memory of his brother's literary acquisitions. Under these circumstances, even if the Lectures proved to be of little value in themselves, we should hold it a duty to speak of them with the utmost forbearance and gentleness. But it is pleasant to find, on reading them, that they call for no special indulgence at our hands. Standing on their own merits, they claim warm and honest approval from us, as the productions of a refined, gentle, and justly-judging mind. The book is in every way a most creditable contribution to the Library of Critical Literature; and we shall be glad to find, in some future day, that its success has encouraged the editor to publish fresh selections from his brother's manuscripts.

It is no very agreeable transition to turn from Mr. Reed's sensible and agreeable pages to the unspeakable vulgarities and flippancies in the volume of Spanish travels which stands third on our list. If the author had possessed any delicacy or good taste at all, he might have written a genuinely lively and pleasant book, for he shows traces, here and there, of that quick and comprehensive observation which is the traveller's best gift. But his manner as a writer is so inveterately coarse, so absurdly conceited, and so obtrusively and offensively careless, that it is impossible to read six consecutive pages of his book anywhere without feeling tempted to throw it into the fire or the waste-paper basket. The coarseness of this author, especially in the passages which touch in any way on women, is quite indescribable. Take this as one specimen out of many:—

Everything, at last, was tumbled into the boat, and stowed away—men, women, trunks, boxes, bags, and umbrellas. I was so seated as to have one of the latter articles, belonging to a very nervous native, playing, at intervals, the amusing part of a catapult against my right flank. But to distract my attention from these attacks, I had, on the side nearest my heart, the most graceful little Valenciana I ever came in contact with. At the very first pitch of the boat, after leaving the steamer, she began to cling to me as for dear life. Another pitch—and if it had been for dear love, she could not have grasped my arm tighter. One more—O frailty, thy name is woman—the left leg of my trousers was ruined for ever. Cloak, trousseau, and boot, all deluged by a cascade from tips which, a moment before, seemed to have been made only for kissing!

What does the English reader think of that as a specimen of the facetiousness of a fast Yankee? The passage suggests one rather curious consideration. We English are accustomed to be considerably rated by tourists from the other side of the Atlantic for wanting that gallant and delicate consideration for women which is said to be the most remarkable social virtue of America. Remembering this, and remembering also that the quotation just made (one example among many of the special coarseness to which we are now referring) is from an American book, which is itself a reprint of articles that originally appeared in one of the first and foremost of the American Magazines, we are, to say the least of it, a little astonished at the style of writing, which we are fairly justified in setting down, from the facts just stated, as a successful style in America. In England, such a passage as that above extracted, if it could have proceeded from any decently-educated Englishman's pen, would have been struck out of any Magazine article by any Magazine editor; and if it had been restored in a republication, would have been marked with a "Query" by any respectable printer's reader, and condemned as ruinous to the character of the book with the reading public by any intelligent English publisher. The lowest "Gent" writer among us would not venture to make merry on the subject of a sea-sick woman, before the ungallant English public, as the successful Yankee traveller makes merry—first in *Putnam's Monthly*, then in *Costas de Espana*—before the gallant and delicate American public. Strange, is it not? Can it be barely possible (as some explanation of an apparent anomaly) that in this matter of tender consideration towards women, stolid

John Bull possesses the genuine spirit, while smart Brother Jonathan displays the empty outward form? Is this, after all, the real state of the case? We are prejudiced enough ourselves to feel a strong suspicion that it is.

Our fast Yankee has one merit at least—he has written a short book, which it is possible, with skipping and some occasional feelings of disgust, to read to the end. But the next author—a novelist—is determined not to let us off easily. He gives us four hundred and forty closely-printed pages, devoted to the telling of the most unexceptionably moral and most intensely dull story that we ever remember attempting to read. As critics, we have nothing whatever to say on the subject of *A Long Look Ahead*, except that, not being able by any means to see our way through it, we heartily wish the "Long Look" had been a little shorter. As readers, we found the characters insupportably wearisome from their excessive virtue, their excessive tendency to laugh heartily without the slightest reason for it, and their excessive prolixity in the way of solemn talking to each other about nothing at all. It may seem an over-confident assertion to make, but we most obstinately and absolutely disbelieve that it is possible for any human being to read this book through. It is a positive curiosity of quiet, well-intentioned, wholly-unmitigated dullness. We feel drowsy even with thinking and writing about it. *Morphine and Poppies* should have been its title, and the Mansion of Eternal Repose the publishing-house from which it was issued to the world.

You Have Heard of Them, by Q., is a book of mangy gossip about famous authors, artists, and actors, by a Gent. In the introduction to his small, "scandalous chronicle," Q. takes occasion to say that he cares little for criticism. He need not care at all; for, on this side of the Atlantic at least, we will venture to say that he will not be criticised. Judging by certain passages in which the Gent gossips fatuously about himself, we have reason to fear that he was once connected with the English press. It is delightful, after making that deplorable discovery, to see that Q.'s mangy little book is published in America, and to find that his impudent little Preface is dated "New York." Far be it from us to criticise him in any hostile spirit. As English journalists he has laid us under the deepest obligation—by removing to the opposite side of the Atlantic. Only let him stop there, and we shall never cease to think with gratitude of our mangy little Q.!

MY COURTSHIP AND ITS CONSEQUENCES.

My Courtship and its Consequences. By Henry Wichof.

We have already noticed the Nichof, Wichof, or Marshall affair. We now have the volume in our hands, and a more repulsive display of reckless vanity, presumptuous pretence, and naked coxcombry we never encountered. The work is rendered more odious by an artificial character of naturalness, and a mock candour. Mr. Henry Wichof, Nichof, or Marshall, invokes justice at the bar of English opinion, in a manner likely enough to secure for him a justice, but not that which he seeks. He tells the story of his own loves. In February, 1851, a trial took place at Genoa, for the abduction of Miss ———, of Portland-place, London; and Mr. Wichof, who figures as the accused, was condemned by a Genoese judge to fifteen months' imprisonment. It is from this judgment that he appeals to the British public, as well as from the calumnies that have followed that judgment. He first saw the young lady in 1835; she then lived with an aunt, and for several years he frequented the house. At that time Mr. Wichof was attached to the American Embassy in London; and he is as careful to make the public his *confidant* in his *bonnes fortunes* in diplomacy, as he is in those of a more tender character. The engaging manners of the young lady, and her highly-cultivated intellect, left impressions so deep and pleasing, that occasional absence from England, and a return to the United States could not remove them. All the loveliness of America paled before Portland-place. In the spring of 1851, as lions come back to the fountains, Mr. Wichof came to draw his quarter's salary from the Foreign Office; and hearing from a mutual friend that the young lady was residing in London, and alone, having lost her relatives, Mr. Wichof seized the occasion to renew his old acquaintance, jilting the fair of the West. He does not fail to remark that Miss Gamble was beautiful when he first knew her, and that time had left its traces; but she remained as mentally gifted as ever, and we are led to the impression that his suit was not unwelcome. It must be remembered that we have only *his* story, and that his story terminated in a criminal condemnation; but the tale is curious, if it were only to be taken as the anatomy of feeling on one side,—an analysis of the ideas in the mind of a gentleman of forty coquetting with a lady of forty, and supposing that he is engaged in a game where the other side is equally intent upon concealment. In his account, the courtship is nothing less than a struggle between the *amour-propre* of the two—the Yankee being desperately afraid of being outwitted by a woman! In this surprising apprehension he confesses to the cowardice of endeavouring to outwit her, lest she should outwit him. At last he makes up his mind "to pop the question," and after beating about the bush without being able "to screw his courage to the sticking point," he writes a letter filled with his aspirations.

There is something very amusing in this timidity, couched as it is, like the whole volume, in language up to the standard of the slang phrases which we have quoted. Conscience makes cowards of us all; and the astounding cosmopolitan "gent" who is superior to every delicate reserve—who tramples down the secrets of foreign office and society—who has resolved to outwit, if not to coerce, the woman that he has in his eye—who descends even to publish allusions to her personal appearance; yet trembles before her—like any innocent Paul who cannot find the courage to "pop the question" to his Virginia! On the day after writing his letter, he receives an answer, declaring in due form that their acquaintance must end. In alarming and almost threatening despair, the lover writes to his lady the horrible announcement that he shall start by the next train for Paris, "without his breakfast." This species of moral compulsion triumphed, as it has often done, and a note from the lady readmitted him to her dread presence. The Chevalier now confesses that "he tried the influence of a little neglect"—"for ladies don't like to be forgotten;" and so he did not

present himself until some interval had passed. He expected an easy surrender; but according to his account, he met with an adversary as keen-witted as himself. Again he returns to the frightful design of bolting; again he receives expressions of penitence. The penitence is subsequently withdrawn, and he threatens a "rash act." A good part of the story is taken up with this kind of shilly-shally; but we remember we have only the gentleman's narrative.

A change came over the scene when the lady determined to travel. She procured a courier and a lady-companion. Mr. Wichof took advice from lady friends, and pursued his object to Switzerland. He insinuated himself into the good graces of her no longer youthful companion, who discloses the fact of a secret attachment to him on the part of the younger lady; and he tried the effect of a sudden appearance on the great St. Bernard. This reminds us of the French novelist Eugène Sue, who will make a couple in ordinary life suddenly encounter each other at the North Pole, or meet each other on the sands of the Red Sea. Somehow, the gentleman and lady find themselves at Ouchy, a little village on the borders of Lake Lemann. At Geneva the gentleman thinks it politic to abate his ardour; to grow taciturn and melancholy; to make answers "in thorough bass;" and by these means, if we may trust his report, he secures a promise that she will be his wife. Caprices bring remonstrances from Mr. Wichof. On one occasion, he tells us, he staggered out of the room "like a man with a knife in his heart," but really unable to retain his laughter till he gets into the street. To try one's luck, since one sees "nothing to prevent the scheme;" to watch the lady with a lynx eye; to calculate her income as "sufficient for all the exigencies of a married life"—to affect indifference, or to look wretched "as long as muscles could hold out," are the arts through which the citizen of the model republic approaches the heart of the moneyed lady. The *dénoûment* approaches. The young lady starts for Italy; the adventurer bribes her courier, and by a subterfuge, he obtains an interview at Genoa in an apartment of the Palace of the Russian Consul. A deed of violence is imputed to the lady at this interview, and the gentleman extorts a written promise to marry him, or to forfeit half of her income—a proceeding which he terms "an act of devotion" on his part. Next morning, through the consul at Genoa, Mr. Wichof is handed to the police, and the trial ensues. We have already stated the result of the trial; but the volume unquestionably raises a very curious and important question—how such a statement of the facts can set Mr. Wichof right with the British public, or prove that he is not exactly the person he has already been considered.

BOOKS ON OUR TABLE.

A Manual of Elementary Geology: or, the Ancient Changes of the Earth and its Inhabitants, as Illustrated by Geological Monuments. By Sir Charles Lyell, M.A., &c. (Fifth Edition, greatly enlarged, and Illustrated with 750 woodcuts.)

John Murray.

Brambles and Bay Leaves: Essays on the Homely and the Beautiful. By Shirley Hibberd. Longman, Brown, Green, and Longmans.

The Christ of History: an Argument founded in the Facts of his Life on Earth. By John Young, M.A. Longman, Brown, Green, and Longmans.

A Few Months in America: containing Remarks on some of its Industrial and Commercial Interests. By James Robertson. Longman and Co.

Commentaries on the Productive Forces of Russia. By M. L. De Tegoborski, Privy Councillor and Member of the Council of the Russian Empire. Vol. I. Longman, Brown, Green, and Longmans.

Essays on the Spirit of the Inductive Philosophy, the Unity of Worlds, and the Philosophy of Creation. By the Rev. Baden Powell, M.A. Longman, Brown, Green, and Longmans.

The Collected Works of Dugald Stewart, F.R.S.S. (Vol. VI.) The Philosophy of the Active and Moral Powers of Man. (Vol. I.) To which is Prefixed Part Second of the Outlines of Moral Philosophy, with many New and Important Additions. Edited by Sir William Hamilton, Bart. Thomas Constable and Co.

A Short Historical Account of the Crimea, from the Earliest Ages and during the Russian Occupation, compiled from the best authorities. By W. Burckhardt Barker, M.R.A.S. Trübner and Co.

British Mines considered as a means of Investment; with Particulars of the Principal Dividend and Progressive Mines in England and Wales. (Second Edition, Corrected and Revised.) By J. H. Murchison, F.G.S. Mann, Nephews.

Hardwicke's Shilling Peasage for 1855. Robert Hardwicke.

Sir Jasper Carver, his Life and Experiences. (Parlour Library.) Thomas Hodgson.

Chambers's Journal of Popular Literature, Science, and Arts. (Part 15.) W. and R. Chambers.

Mensuration made Easy: or, the Decimal System for the Million, with its Application to the Daily Employments of the Artisan and Mechanic. By Charles Hoare. Effingham Wilson.

Astro-Theory; or the Religion of Astronomy: Four Lectures, in Reference to the Controversy on the "Plurality of Worlds," as lately Sustained between Sir David Brewster and an Essayist. By Edward Higginson. E. T. Whitfield.

On the Loans Raised by Mr. Pitt during the First French War, 1793-1801; with some Statements in Defence of the Methods of Funding Employed. By William Newmarch. Effingham Wilson.

The "Warnings of the War:" a Letter to the Right Hon. Lord Palmerston, Prime Minister. By "A British Commoner." Thomas Bosworth.

Parliamentary Government: or Responsible Ministries for the Australian Colonies. By H. S. Chapman. Pratt and Son.

Mahometanism in its Relation to Prophecy: or an Inquiry into the Prophecies concerning Anti-Christ, with some Reference to their Bearing on the Events of the Present Day. By Ambrose Lisle Phillips, Esq., of Grace-Dieu Manor, Leicestershire. Charles Dolman.

Poems. By Bessie Rayner Parkes. (Second Edition.) John Chapman.

Stories in Verse. By Leigh Hunt. (Now first collected, with Illustrations.) George Routledge and Co.

The Story of the Legion of Honour. By W. Blanchard Jerrold. George Routledge and Co.

Notes on Nurses; Practical Suggestions addressed to English Ladies. H. Baillière.

On the Mental, Moral, and Social Progress exhibited in the Present (half-expired) Century: a Lecture, delivered at the Kendal Scientific and Literary Society. By Cornelius Nicholson, F.G.S. Sampson Low and Son.

The Seven-mile Cabinet: or the Doleful Story of the Russian War. By Nemo. John F. Shaw.

Living for Appearances: a Tale. By the Brothers Mayhew. James Blackwood.

The Arts.

THE BRITISH ARTISTS.

If the picture-show this year in Suffolk-street were really a specimen of the best that English Painters can accomplish, we should feel despondent indeed on the subject of British Art; and more than doubtful whether British Artists, as a body, had not made a great mistake in their choice of a vocation. It is not so much the general mediocrity of the pictures, as the general carelessness of the artists which has struck us this year in Suffolk-street. We entered the Exhibition prepared beforehand for finding few good subjects, and little genuine originality of treatment; but we were not prepared for the evidences of daring carelessness and lazy quackery which the majority of the British Artists' pictures present this year. With hardly more than a dozen honourable exceptions, no exhibitor seems to have worked with even ordinary earnestness and care. Smudging, dabbling, and splashing, appear to be the processes which represent the executive part of the art of painting at the Suffolk-street Exhibition. As for any proofs of study, patience, and honest reference to Nature (with the very few exceptions already cited), we searched for them in vain.

On entering the "Great Room," we began by sympathising heartily with Mr. JOHN EDGAR WILLIAMS, who has been obliged to paint Mr. Sheriff Croxley discontentedly surveying the public in footman's costume, and, what is still worse, to exhibit the picture. From this very lamentable portrait we turned to Mr. H. J. PIDDING's "News from the Seat of War." The "News" is read by a squinting old man to a drivelling old man; and is incidentally listened to by an animal with a monkey's face and a dog's body, and by a hungry-looking girl, who expresses sympathy with affairs in the Crimea by holding her hand to her bosom. Further on is an unassuming landscape by "MARGARET WYCOMBE," which, though too vividly green in effect, shows traces of careful study, and intelligent observation of nature. Mr. CLINT's "Evening at Ilfracomb" possesses neither of these qualities. It is one audacious smear of garish colours—sky, sea, and rocks are all equally false, equally unlike nature. No terms of condemnation can be too strong for the unartistic carelessness of this picture, and of another near it, by Mr. ZEITLER, affecting to represent Hungarians in a Snow Storm. Mr. ZEITLER's execution resembles particularly careless scene-painting on a small scale. He and Mr. WOOLMER (in "The Sound in the Shell"), in different ways, shirk every technical difficulty of Art, and substitute mechanical systems of blotching and smearing, which it is impossible to describe, but which it is nothing less than exasperating to look at. Passing by the eternal "Contadina from the Campagna of Rome," and her inevitable little boy with the grinning face and the sugar-loaf hat, as depicted for us, on this occasion, by Mr. BUCKNER, we pause at Mr. WILSON's "Fishing Boats off Fecamp." This picture is an imitation of STANFIELD; still it is a creditable and careful imitation, and that is much better than such sham originality as is displayed by Mr. ZETTER or Mr. CLINT. Mr. GOSLING, too, in his "Park Scene," has really worked, and has produced a very fair picture. Mr. MONTAIGNE's "Good Samaritan," instead of binding up the prostrate victim's wounds, catches him by the arm and points ferociously straight up to the sky, with an expression of face as if he were saying: "You have just tumbled out of the clouds, I suppose, sir? May I ask what the devil you mean by tumbling down here?" Using the same form of interrogatory, we may ask Mr. BUCKNER what he means by making the Duchess of Hamilton at least eight feet high. Estimated by the regular test of so many heads to a body, her Grace, in this portrait, is, seriously and positively, a Giantess. Mr. MADON's "Sketch at Jullien's," though coarse in feeling, looks as if it had been really suggested by nature, and shows a reality in the treatment which, small as the picture is, makes it quite a remarkable work at Suffolk-street. Mr. PRU's "Evening at Chelsea," and Mr. BODDINGTON's "Summer Morning," belong to that gracefully-conventional class of landscapes which we look at one moment and forget the next. Mr. CLATER's "Latest Intelligence" is another war-picture, not containing such hideous figures as Mr. PIDDING's, but in respect of absolute imbecility, the most notable figure-picture in the Exhibition. There is a woman, in the right-hand corner of the composition, straddling (apparently) on a tub, squaring her elbows, and rubbing her knuckles against the heel of a stocking, instead of mending it, who is, in a weakly-grotesque way, the most amusing personage we ever remember to have seen on canvas. Mr. TENNANT's "Road over a Heath" brings us back again to something like Art. It is rather inky and hard in effect; but is very carefully painted, and worthy of appearing in better pictorial society than that of Mr. HURLSTONE's "Columbus," which hangs not far from it. As a work of Art, this picture runs Mr. CLATER rather hard. Columbus looks sea-sick and dirty, and his mutinous crew are all making faces at him. Mr. NOBLE represents an entertainment at the Countess de Lamballe's. At this party, the catalogue informs us, "a theatre was fitted up, with a grove of trees, in which a shepherd was to appear driving a flock of sheep. When the doors were thrown open to astonish the party, the sheep, by some accident, leaped over the fence amongst the company, and the rams, seeing themselves reflected in the looking-glasses, dashed their heads through them, to the great dismay of the ladies." This is a most admirable subject for painting. We can heartily congratulate Mr. NOBLE on his choice of it, but not on his treatment. What a picture Mr. LESLIE or Mr. WARD would have painted from this historical anecdote! Among the good landscapes not yet noticed in the "Great Room," we may mention Mr. GOSLING's (No. 174); Mr. W. WEST's "Norway Scene," and Mr. E. LEAR's "Devonshire Glen"—this last work being remarkably simple, true, and powerful in treatment.

In the "South-East Room," we have only to particularise Mr. C. PETTIT's two "Views of Corfe Castle." This artist has yet to learn how to combine effect with finish; but he is careful and conscientious; he works earnestly and works hard; and his two small pictures, whatever may be their defects, do him credit as a painter who evidently respects his art. As for the mass of pictures in this and the other small rooms, it would be a wearisome and ungrateful task to mention them in detail. They are, for the most part, either such thoroughly sham originals, or such thoroughly audacious imitations of the great painters of the English school—of ETTY, COLLINS, LANDSEER, and DANBY especially—that it is useless to criticise them, and hopeless to think of looking forward to a better era in the artists' lives. With a word of praise for a clever water-colour drawing, by Miss MURRAY, called "Jealousy,"—which is very much better than most of the figure-pictures by gentlemen in the Exhibition—we leave Suffolk-street, thinking it fortunate for our national complacency that the "British Artists" do not entirely represent Painting in England.

THE NATIONAL INSTITUTION.

It is a gallery of pictures affording the judicious visitor at least two points of view. He may take up safe ground for the exercise of half the function of criticism as defined by Dr. Johnson—"the discovery of faults in the moderns and of beauties in the ancients"—or he may praise heartily, if he be in the simple mind to praise. The exhibition at the Portland Gallery, Langham-place, is, in short, an exhibition so various in merit as to include almost the very extremes of good and bad painting.

It is a pleasant bond by which this fraternity of talent is held together. In some respects, too, the plan works well. We should observe that the National Institution of Fine Arts is founded, like the Society of British Artists in Suffolk-street, and like the two societies of water-colour painters, on a proprietary membership. Offerings from without are not slighted; but the most prominent are generally the pictures by regular exhibitors—that is to say, by persons who are at least as likely to take an interest in the character of the display as to be inconveniently solicitous about getting their own productions into the chief places. The evident advantage is balanced by a loss which is more easily discerned, perhaps, in the catalogue than on the walls of the exhibition. The proprietors, members who govern the affairs of the National Institution being painters and not patrons, never catch an R.A., or so much as an expectant "Associate," while the British Institution in Pall-Mall, which promotes the Fine Arts in the United Kingdom after a manner peculiarly its own, but which boasts half the peerage as its hereditary governors, has grown to be quite a chapel-of-ease to the Royal Academy. Mr. R. S. LAUDER makes good his title to the leadership at the Portland Gallery. His picture of the "Gow-chrom and Louise" may, on the whole, be pronounced the best subject-picture in the exhibition. In the first place, we have a good representation, characteristic of the two personages, and at once intelligible as a scene. Next, the design is altogether pleasing. If we did not recognise the armourer of Perth we should still have before us a very energetic expression of manhood, pleasant to behold. Strangers to "Louise" will see in the trembling glee-maiden as much feminine beauty as will make them curious to know something more about her. Can there be a more decided pictorial success than such a fact implies? We have more to say in commendation of this work: of its colouring and delicacy of touch, especially. Too frequently as much excellence of intention as Mr. LAUDER's will be frustrated by the mere want of tact like his in the management of flesh-tints. Mr. J. ECKFORD LAUDER wants not only the skill of his relation in the same particular, but he falls immeasurably behind him in vigour of conception. The faces of his women are all weak and inanimate. He has, however, qualities which ought not to be despised, and among them is the quality of making himself understood. Expression in its highest nature he has not; but his pictures are expressive in the sense that they tell their story with great clearness and, in matters of leading incident and detail, with some force. We would especially remark that the plant in the foreground of his largest picture,—"Sir Tramtris Teaching La Beale Isonde to Play the Harp"—is painted with exquisite feeling. Its grace almost persuades us into the belief that Mr. LAUDER had a womanly ideal before him when he sketched the slender outline.

Mr. TAYLOR's "Battle of the Stone Ferry"—an incident of the American war—is of the unmistakable Mr. TAYLOR stamp; firm and clear as any of the well-known impressions of that feudal hand. The story—that of the peasant heroes in FRASER's Highland regiment gaining time for the British garrison by a desperate attack on a strong column of the enemy—is nicely fitted to the "tragic-historical-pastoral" bent of the artist. As we should expect in a "powerful incident" treated by Mr. TAYLOR, there is immense labour, not the least bit of which is lost. It is a piece of earnest action; very natural, and very grim in its confusion of lappled scarlet coats and powdered hair with a death-harvest, cut down in a heap and trodden under foot. We have named the three most striking works, and certainly the three which will be most generally remembered; but there are very few persons with any feeling for pure and true art who will pass unobscured by Miss HOWITT's imaginative little work, with its quaint, gem-like setting. An exquisite "Missal" might be formed, if every poem of SHELLY were illustrated as Miss HOWITT illustrates the "Sensitive Plant." We commend this task to her as a labour of love.

A little more care in the imitation of flesh tints would have made Mr. BURTON's picture of "William Tell's Son" a perfect thing of its kind. In the picture by Mr. DUKES, called "Reading a Chapter," the want of care is more generally noticeable; and it is a want that ought to be repaired, as the artist possesses that natural tact for distinguishing small varieties of character which would enable him to surpass GOODALL, with half GOODALL's ingenuity and patience. Among works of the same calibre as this of Mr. DUKES, the most meritorious are those by PROVIS and PASSMORE. The two UNDERHILLS do not improve on acquaintance. The eccentricity of painting in such a manner as to make it appear that the work is done on a blanket, is only endurable as a novelty. Among the landscapes, the most beautiful are by A. GILBERT and G. A. WILLIAMS; but the whole alphabet of WILLIAMS, contribute works of scarcely inferior merit. Mr. ROBINS has one or two fine water-pieces; and it is also in marine painting that a versatile artist, Mr. W. PARROTT, seems most successful. Mr. BARBAUD serves, as usual, to remind us how Miss SHARPE "smoothes her horrent brow" (after the decorously agonising example of Dr. DARWIN) at the Water-Colour Gallery. In addition, however, to romantic sentimentalism, Mr. BARBAUD has, for the last few years, been speculating in spiritual sentimentalism; and has published, with immense success, the Rubrical series of prints which ended the other day, let us hope, with the piously responsive title, "Good Lord, deliver us." We protest heartily against the principle on which painters like Mr. BARBAUD are allowed to escape ridicule under the shelter of a devotional subject.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.

We have elsewhere described the decorations of the theatre on Thursday. The attention of the vast audience was so completely absorbed by the Imperial and Royal *dramatis personæ*, that the republican Beethoven had no chance of a hearing, even with a new prima-donna for his *Fidelio*. Mademoiselle JENNY NEY comes to us recommended by a considerable reputation in Germany, and by the name of JENNY, which ever since the days of the LIND has possessed a singular fascination for the British public. Mademoiselle NEY made her *début* under circumstances most trying, but she appeared nothing daunted, and from first to last performed with ease and self-possession, singing and acting with a perfect mastery of her faculties, and a perfect control over her emotions, in the face of all that brilliant distraction. Mademoiselle NEY apparently enjoys the advantage (which so many would gladly forego!) of experience and maturity in her art. Powerfully constructed, and with a decided capacity for boots, with a fair complexion and a very German countenance, she wears a frank and pleasing aspect. Her voice, a thoroughly-trained and strong mezzo *soprano*, is round and rich in the medium notes; rather rough, it appeared to us, in the lower; and rather flat in the higher part of the register. She sang the long and difficult *scena* with sustained dignity and a finely-reserved emotion, and with a purity and correctness of intonation that never failed. We trust it may be said that Mlle. JENNY NEY, though not a JOANNA WAGNER, is a real acquisition to the theatre. FORMES was thoroughly at home, and always *en scène*, in the part of the bluff but kindly gaoler; and TAGLIAPICO is always the finished artist. On Thursday, however, he once or twice appeared a little absent, and sang beside the note. It must be confessed that the music ascribed to *Pisarro* is almost as ungrateful as the part, and seldom repays the most correct singing, so far as the audience is concerned. TAMBERLIK, who was gladly recognised on his prison pallet, was looking a little thinner perhaps, but in capital vocal preservation. The large phrasing and the passionate vibrato were welcomed with satisfaction by the regular opera-goers, and he gave the C in *l'alt* as a sort of *emphasis* to his European reputation. Mr. COSTA's orchestra played the two overtures, especially the *Leonora*, with even more than the usual spirit, decision, and delicacy. The chorus was neither ineffective nor remarkable. The Prisoners' chorus went off without a hand; this, however, may perhaps be fairly ascribed to the distraction of the audience rather than to defective execution. *Eva*, the new *divertissement*, introduced Madlle. CERITO, who is looking delightfully fresh and vigorous, and who dances with all the luxurious refinement peculiar to her style. Mr. WILLIAM BEVERLEY—his mark—was visible in the exquisite scene which served as a framework to the groups. Through a trellis of vine-leaves, reminding us of a description in LEIGH HUNT's *Story of Rimini*, is seen a purple distance of sea shut in by mountains, which recalls for a moment the shores of Spezia.

At DRURY LANE the "Royal Opera" season has begun auspiciously, and we trust the fair promise of success may be fulfilled. This will depend on the management. There is a larger public in London for Italian Opera at playhouse prices than in any other city in Europe; and what is not so generally admitted, a larger musical public, not always discriminating, but always indulgent. The great condition of success is, that an Opera at playhouse prices shall be completely unexclusive. Dress regulations are quite proper in the Opera, which is essentially an aristocratic institution; but there is an intelligent, respectable, and paying musical democracy in England which can afford to do everything but "dress" for an evening's rational amusement. To this democracy the "Royal Opera" may, we think, appeal with hopefulness. We were glad to observe on Monday evening that, notwithstanding the liberty of costume, the house was filled with a most respectable audience. The opera was the ever-delightful *Sonnambula*, and it was very creditably performed. Indeed, the *Amina* and the *Rodolpho* were far above the average, and the *Elvino* was at least agreeable. Madame GASSIER, who was a favourite at the Italian Opera in Paris last winter, is a Spanish lady, with a most Castilian countenance and most Andalusian eyebrows and lashes. She looks all energy and confidence, too short in figure to be graceful, but still engaging and attractive. This is not exactly the picture of *Amina*: and Madame GASSIER, we may say at once, has not the air of an *ingenue*. But with a piercing soprano, flexible and powerful to an extraordinary degree, and attaining unheard-of altitudes with perfect nonchalance, she sang the *Come per me* brilliantly, and with the finale *Ah non giunge* "carried away" the house. It is, however, in the *Barbiere di Siviglia*, in which she is announced to sing on Monday, that she is seen and heard to the best advantage. Monsieur GASSIER has a clear, powerful, and smooth barytone voice, which he manages with excellent taste, and his acting is smart and intelligent.

We were agreeably disappointed at finding the Signor BETTINI not the "robust tenor" of that name, but a young man apparently new to the stage, raw and awkward in his gestures, destitute of any dramatic pretensions, but gifted with a sweet and facile voice, well taught and judiciously used. It is a voice really pleasing to listen to, and the singer's unaffected and unassuming manner secures at once the sympathy of the audience. The minor parts were not so efficiently represented as they might be without ruining the management. The chorus is painstaking, and the orchestra, ably conducted by Mr. J. H. TULLY, and composed, in a great measure of refugees from the despotism of Mr. SCHALLER, the Louis Napoleon of the Crystal Palace Band, plays with steadiness and spirit.

The present management of DRURY LANE announces, we observe, the engagement of a French troupe from the Gaité theatre in Paris, for the performance of *Les Cosaques*, an anti-Russian drama, which had an immense run while the war was in its prime. We have no great sympathy for this bluster, but as a spectacle, and as a curious dramatic *ensemble*, *Les Cosaques* will doubtless be found a powerful diversion in the new operatic campaign at DRURY LANE.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

ANSTED.—April 15, at No. 17, Manchester-street, the wife of Professor Ansted, a daughter.

TAYLOR.—April 14, at 28, Portland-place, the Lady Charlotte Watson Taylor: twin daughters.

MARRIAGES.

HAWKES.—BAYLEY.—Dec. 19, at St. John's Church, Adelaide, George Wright, fourth son of Major Hawkes, to Edith Jane Stewart, only daughter of John Bayley, Esq., nephew of the late Sir John Bayley, Bart.

MUNSTER.—ERKINE.—April 17, at All Saints' Church, Kensington-place, Knightsbridge, the Earl of Munster, to Miss Kennedy Erskine, eldest daughter of the Lady Augusta Gordon Halliburton.

DEATHS.

BECHÉ.—April 13, Sir Henry Thomas De la Beche, C.B., F.R.S., F.G.S., Corresponding Member of the Académie des Sciences, &c.

BROWN.—March 22, in the trenches before Sebastopol, whilst gallantly leading a detachment of his regiment against a sortie of the enemy, the Hon. Cavendish Browne, Captain Royal Fusiliers, aged twenty-five, third son of Lord Kilmaine.

HUNLOKE.—April 13, at her residence, Twickenham, Miss Hunloke, only surviving sister of the Dowager Countess of Albemarle, and of the late Sir Windsor Hunloke, Bart., of Wingerworth, Derbyshire.

LARKE.—March 10, at Jarmel, Haiti, Jeanne, Catherine Scholastique Louise Dufrene, the beloved wife of William Larke, Esq., and daughter of the Duke and Duchess of Tiburon.

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

Tuesday, April 17.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.—BODHAM BUTLER WISKE, Castle-street, Holborn, tailor.

BANKRUPTCY.—THOMAS BELLING, Cambridge, cooper.

BENJAMIN NEWTON, Brighton, brush manufacturer.—WILLIAM HOLLADAY and JAMES CLEMENTSON, Watling-street, warehousemen.—WILLIAM LISTER, Great Queen-street, Lincoln's-inn-fields, jewel case-maker.—MATTHEW RICH-

MOND STEELE, Leicester, linen-draper.—REINFELD REICHLER, Red Lion-street, Holborn, tailor.—ROBERT WEDDLE BENNETT, Westbromwich, brewer.—WALTER and JOSEPH HORTON, Wednesbury, timber merchants.—CHARLES and FRANCIS PEVERELLE, Birmingham, hardware dealers.—JOHN WEBBER, Birmingham, grocer.—JOHN HOPKINSON, Nottingham, grocer.—DANIEL SIMS, Old Furnace Bottom, Gloucestershire, wire-drawer.—FREDERICK TRAFSELL, Bristol, timber merchant.—DANIEL BENNETT, jun., Bristol, innkeeper.—JAMES KNOWLES, Presteigne, Radnorshire, innkeeper.—GEORGE HAWKE, Foburn, Cornwall, dealer in hardware.—HUGH TALBOT and HUGH POPHAM TALBOT, Sidmouth, Devonshire, druggists.—WILLIAM HENRY HAYWARD, Devonport, tallow chandler.—CHARLES EVANS, Bradford, Yorkshire, stuff merchant.—WILLIAM ASPDIN and AUGUSTUS WILLIAM ORD, Gateshead-on-Tyne, cement manufacturers.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.—H. BURNES, Montrose, baker.—A. REID, Glasgow, grocer.—T. DUNCAN, Corra, Fifeshire.

Friday, April 20.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.—HENRY PHILLIPS, Bethnal Green-road, corn dealer.

BANKRUPTS.—GEORGE JESSOP, Cliftonville Hoe, Sussex, builder.—JOSEPH BROOKS, Bocking, Essex, wheelwright.—WILLIAM FITCH, Old Fish-street-hill, stationer.—WILLIAM GITTUS, Isleham, Cambridgeshire, draper.—RICHARD JOHN OGBURN, Shore-ditch, victualler.—GEORGE GREENFIELD, Upper Holloway, builder.—GEORGE HARGREAVE MORGAN, Hereford, builder.—WILLIAM MORGAN, Bristol, potato dealer.—WILLIAM PATRIDGE, the elder, Birmingham, builder.—JOSEPH PRESCOTT, Liverpool, vendicator.—EDWARD LAWRENCE KYLE, Reading, licensed victualler.—JAMES STEVENSON, Liverpool, provision dealer.—EDWIN ADOLPHUS LOCK, Curry Rivell, Somersetshire, draper.—LOUISA BROWETT, Bradford, innkeeper.—JAMES WOOLLEY, Manchester, coach builder.—DAVID NORBURY, Alderley, Cheshire, butcher.—GEORGE HAWKE, Polruan, Cornwall, dealer in hardware.—FREDERICK WILLIAM LISTER, Great Queen-street, Lincoln's Inn-fields, and Southampton-row, Russell-square, jewel case manufacturer.—JOHN MOSLEY, Macclesfield, saddler.—THOMAS HOLDER, Macclesfield, silk throwster.

SCOTCH SEQUESTERATIONS.—JOHN ORR, Johnston, grocer.—JOSEPH RICH, Edinburgh, tobacconist.—MALCOLM McCALL, Oban, hotel-keeper.

Commercial Affairs.

MONEY MARKET AND CITY INTELLIGENCE.

Friday Evening, April 20, 1855.
The new Loan has been subscribed for very respectably. Nine-tenths of the amount asked for have been granted. The "Scrip," as it is called at present, seems rather a favourite, and stands at present at about 14 to 15 premium. Consols have been dropping, and are still flat. Railway shares very heavy. Turkish scrip has had a great fall—since the dividend came off. They have been down as low as 72, 73 ex dividend. To-day more firmness prevails, and they are quoted 74, 75 ex dividend. We are tantalised every now and then by flying reports of a fresh proposition made by Russia to the Conference, or another breach with an assault to follow at Sebastopol. The Emperor's visit has made quite a holiday for the City people, the weather adding its influence.

In Crystal Palace Shares and Mines there has been but little doing. United Mexican and Santiago are still inquired after. Imperial Brazil are a shade higher. Consols leave off at four o'clock, 804, 80½; the New Scrip, 14, 14½; Turkish Six per Cent, 74½, 75; Russian Fives, 98, 101.

Caledonians, 59½, 60; Edinburgh and Glasgow, 54, 55; Eastern Counties, 11, 11½; Great Western, 63½, 64½; London and North Western, 98, 98½; London and South Western, 82, 83; Great Northern, 88, 89; ditto, A Stock, 72, 74; ditto, B Stock, 123, 125; Midlands, 68½, 69; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 75½, 76½; South Eastern, 50, 51; Berwick, 70½, 71½; South Devon, 12½, 13½; Oxford, 25, 27; Antwerp and Rotterdam, 7½, 8; Eastern of France, 2, 2½; Great Northern of France, 34½, 35½; Namur and Liege, 6, 6½; Sambre and Meuse, 8, 8½; Paris and Lyons, 23½, 24; Paris and Orleans, 45, 47; Paris and Rouen, 39, 41; Paris and Havre, 22, 23½; Great Western of France, 17½, 17¾; Great Luxembourg, 24, 24½; Western of France, 54, 54½; Imperial Brazil, 24, 24½; John del Rey, 30, 32; Linars, 7, 7½; Pontigbeand, 2, 2½; Santiago de Cuba, 6, 6½; United Mexican, 74, 75; Wallers, 4, 4½; Australasian Bank, 80, 82; Oriental Bank, 33, 35; Union of Australia, 60, 68; Australian Agricultural, 28, 30; Canada Government Six per Cent, 108½, 109; Crystal Palace, 54, 56; Preference, 1, 1½; British Investment, 14, 15; South Australian Land, 36, 37.

CORN MARKET.

Mark Lane, Friday Evening, April 20, 1855.

There has been but a moderate arrival of English and Foreign Wheat, since Monday. During the week the trade has ruled dull, and prices have declined 1s. since last Friday.

Barley, both English and Foreign, is in fair supply, and, with a small demand, prices are barely maintained. The arrivals of Oats are small, but sufficient for the demand.

BRITISH FUNDS FOR THE PAST WEEK. (CLOSING PRICES.)

	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Frid.
Bank Stock	210	210	210	210	210	211½
3 per Cent. Red.	80½	80½	80½	80	80½	80½
3 per Cent. Con. An.	90½	90½	90½	90	90	90½
Consols for Account	90½	90½	90	90½	90	90½
5 per Cent. An.	110	110	110	110	110	110
New 2½ per Cent.	100	100	100	100	100	100
Long Ann. 1860.	3 5-16	3½	3½	3½	3 15-16	3½
India Stock	230	230	230	230	230	230
Ditto Bonds, £1000	14	11	11	11	15	15
Ditto, under £1000	14	11	11	12	12	13
Ex. Bills, £1000	8	10	5	10	10	10
Ditto, £500	10	10	10	10	10	10
Ditto, Small	10	10	10	10	8	10

FOREIGN FUNDS.

LAST OFFICIAL QUOTATION DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY EVENING.)

Brazilian Bonds	98½	Russian Bonds, 5 per	
Buenos Ayres 6 per Cents.	98½	Cents, 1852	99
Chilian 5 per Cents	98½	Russian 4½ per Cents	99
Danish 5 per Cents	98½	Spanish 5½ per Cents	104
Reunited Bonds	98½	Spanish Committee Cert.	
Mexican 3 per Cents	208	of Coup. not fun.	54
Mexican 5 per Cents	208	Venezuela 3½ per Cents	54
Acc. April 16		Belgian 4½ per Cents	94
Portuguese 4 per Cents	41½	Dutch 2½ per Cents	62
Portuguese 3 per Cents	39	Dutch 4 per Cent. Certif	90½

INQUIRY INTO THE WAR WITH RUSSIA.

[From an Inquiry into the War with Russia. By an English Landowner. Hamilton and Adams, Paternoster-row.]

"No peremptory rule can be well laid down for the guidance of nations any more than for the conduct of individuals respecting interference with the concerns of others. It is conceivable that a nation may be so superincumbent in power, so justly confident in its own judicial qualifications,

so unencumbered by nearer and more pressing duties, as to be warranted in curbing the excesses of foreign despots, allying democratic disorders, and protecting weak communities from the brutal oppression of the strong. Again, in the case of individuals, interference between the oppressor and the oppressed may be an act of manly duty. Oftentimes, however, when the brave yet tender heart swells with sympathy and righteous indignation, reason and justice hold back the ready right-arm, and compel us to abide in patience until the ways of Providence are justified to men. A special charge entrusted to our care may command our undivided attention, and wholly disable us for undertaking any other duty. Prior claims may press upon the conscience and forbid our incurring new liabilities; or the former be discharged. So in the case of a nation laden with grave responsibilities having long-standing evils to redress, and many deficiencies to supply, it would be a mixture of mockery and presumption to postpone these pressing duties, and to stretch forth an officious hand in aid of distant sufferers, whilst at her very doors and in her inmost chambers pestilence and want, ignorance and crime, daily contribute their miserable victims to the hospital and the workhouse, the goal and the graveyard.

It may, however, be maintained that the present war is undertaken not for the purpose of defending an oppressed community, but simply to prevent an already powerful nation from acquiring an increase of strength dangerous to the whole family of nations on the continent. In short we are at war for the sake of preserving the "balance of power," that beautiful discovery of kings and statesmen, which has proved so fertile a source of crime, misery, and bloodshed to all the races of Europe. We will, however, take the liberty to doubt whether the people of Great Britain would have cordially entered into this orthodox view of the subject. In fact, the gravest of our statesmen think it desirable at times to spice their harangues with a seasoning of indignation against the barbarity of Russian aggression, and raise their eloquence to a fervid heat by a dash of sympathy with the gallantry of the ill-used Turks. But on the other hand, when our statesmen desire, as sometimes happens, to be precise and business-like instead of vague and declamatory, they carefully inform us that this is no war in aid of oppressed nationalities; we are solemnly assured that we take the part of Turkey, not because Russia is cruel, vicious, and glutinous, but because she is likely to prove too powerful for our own safety; not because honour and humanity call us forward, but because self-interest impels us from behind. This is the statesman's view of the whole matter. We go to war for the sake of that important personage, number one. Away, then, with the sentimental slang about oppressed nationalities—the grandiloquent announcement that we are engaged in resisting and subduing the spirit of Cossack aggression; away with the vain expectation that now at length the pure air of freedom will flow unchecked and unpolluted through the length and breadth of Europe. It is a mistake, we are fighting not for a principle, but for our own ends; not for the sake of humanity, but for the sake of self. It is doubtful whether this version of the matter, stripped as it now is of the cloak flung over it by political ingenuity, will satisfy rich-thinking and humane men. But if our intention to join issue on this very point and inquire whether it is conducive to the true interests of England to make war upon Russia in defence of Turkey?

ROYAL OLYMPIC THEATRE.

Lessee and Manager, Mr. A. WIGAN.

Monday, and during the week, will be performed a Comedietta, called

LAW FOR LADIES.

Characters by Messrs. A. Wigan, G. Vining, Danvers, H. Cooper, and Miss Castleton.

After which, Charles Dance's Farce of

KILL OR CURE.

Characters by Messrs. F. Robson, Emery, F. Vining, Mrs. A. Wigan, and Miss Bromley.

To conclude with the New Fairy Extravaganza, called

THE YELLOW DWARF AND THE KING OF THE GOLD MINES.

Characters by Mr. F. Robson, Miss Julia St. George, Miss R. Ormoude, Miss Maskell, Miss Bromley, and Mrs. Fitzalan.

PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION.—An Ex-

hibition of the finest English, French, and Italian Photographs is now open at the Photographic Institution, 168, New Bond-street. Morning from 10 to 5. Admission, with catalogue, 1s. Evening from 7 to 9. Admission 6d.

SIR HENRY R. BISHOP.—Mr. MITCHELL

feels extreme regret in announcing that the increasing illness of this esteemed Composer renders it unavoidable necessary to shorten the intended SEASON SERIES OF AFTERNOON VOCAL CONCERTS. Arrangements are consequently made for giving THREE CONCERTS ONLY: the first of which will take place at the Hanover-square Rooms, on Saturday next, April 28, commencing at half-past Three o'clock, and terminating before Five. The Concert will consist of Glee, Quartettes, and Concerted Music, by Men Voices, selected solely from Sir Henry Bishop's numerous Compositions, and executed in the most efficient manner by Masters Cooke, Sullivan, Malsch, and Norton. Mr. Francis, Mr. Benson, Mr. Lawler, Mr. Howe, Mr. H. Buckland, and Mr. Land, and a complete Chorus. Reserved Shillings. Programmes and Books of the Words, price Sixpence, may be had at Mr. Mitchell's Royal Library, 33, Old Bond-street; of Messrs. Keith, Prowse, and Co., Cheap-side; and at the principal Libraries and Music-sellers.

RUPTURES.—BY ROYAL LETTERS PATENT.

WHITE'S MOC-MAIN LEVER TRUSS

is allowed by upwards of 200 Medical Gentlemen to be the most effective invention in the curative treatment of Hernia. The use of a steel spring (so often hurtful in its effects) is here avoided, a soft Bandage being worn round the body, while the requisite resisting power is supplied by the Moc-Main Pad and Patent Lever, fitting with so much ease and closeness that it cannot be detected, and may be worn during sleep. A descriptive circular may be had, and the Truss (which cannot fail to fit) forwarded by post, on the circumference of the body, two inches below the hips, being sent to the Manufacturer, Mr. JOHN WHITE, 228, Piccadilly, London.

ELASTIC STOCKINGS, KNEE CAPS, &c., for VARIOUS COSE VEINS, and all cases of WEAKNESS and SWELLING of the LEGS, SPRAINS, &c. They are very strong, light in texture, and inexpensive, and are drawn on like an ordinary stocking. Price from 7s. 6d. to 10s. Postage, 6d.

MESSRS. SHOOLBRED AND BRADSHAW, 34, Jernyn-street, PATENTERS, Manufacturers of every description of ELASTIC RUBBER BANDAGES, as recommended by all the most eminent surgeons, in acknowledgment of the very extensive support they have received, beg to call attention to the various uses to which they are making in the most perfect Elastic Stockings, Caps, Socks, and Ladies and Gentlemen's Spine Supporters. A new description of Belt, invaluable for prevention of Cholera and the cure of Rheumatism, Lumbago, &c. Every description of India-rubber Bandages vulcanized on the newest principle.

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CELEBRATED BREAKFAST BACON.

"We know of nothing more exquisitely delicious than Fitch's Breakfast Bacon."—*Weekly Paper.*

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"I cannot get any Breakfast Bacon like in quality in your."

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"Mr. — requests Messrs. Fitch and Son to send him a side of Bacon similar in every respect to the last."

"A good rasher of Breakfast Bacon, such as you supply, is not to be obtained in our district."

"I was so pleased with the Bacon you sent, that I recommended it to every person I knew to be in need of such an article."

"Sir J. L. — has the pleasure to enclose a post-order. The goods have arrived safely, and given great satisfaction."

This celebrated Bacon is sold by the side and half-side at 84d. per lb.; the middle piece, of 12 lbs., at 2s. per lb.; and other separate pieces.

HOUSEHOLD PROVISIONS.

Fine rich Cheshire Cheese, per single Cheese, 2 7½
Good do. do. do. 2 7½
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Good do. do. do. 2 7½
Fine Ham, 2 7½

Bacon, Hams, Tongues, German Sauces, Cheese, Butter, &c., securely packed for travelling, and delivered free of charge at all the London Terminals.

Prepayment is requested where a reference is not sent with the order for goods.

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ADNAM'S Improved Patent Groats and Barley.

THE ONLY EXISTING PATENT.

And Strongly recommended by the Medical Profession.

TO INVALIDS, MOTHERS, AND FAMILIES.—The important object so desirable to be obtained has at length been secured to the Public by J. and J. C. ADNAM, PATENTERS, who, after much time and attention, have succeeded by their Improved Process in producing preparations of the purest and finest quality ever manufactured from the Oat and Barley.

The Barley being prepared by a similar process as is used in the manufacture of stout, and is found to possess a light and nourishing Food for Infants and the Aged.

A report having been circulated that preparations of white character could not be produced from Groats and Barley alone, the Patentees have had recourse to the highest authority for an analysis to establish the fact, a copy of which is subjoined:

Chemical Laboratory, Guy's Hospital,

February 19, 1855.

I have submitted to a microscopical and chemical examination the samples of Barley-meal and Groats which you have forwarded to me, and I beg to inform you that I find in them only those principles which are found in good Barley. There is no mineral or other impurity present; and, from the result of my investigation, I believe them to be genuine, and to possess those nutritive properties assigned by the late Dr. Pereira to this description of food.

(Signed) A. S. TAYLOR.

"Messrs. J. and J. C. ADNAM and Co." To be obtained Wholesale at the Manufactory, Hatherly Lane, Queen-street, London; and Retail in Packets and Cansisters at 6d. and 1s. each, and at Cansisters for Families at 2s., 5s., and 10s. each, of all respectable Grocers, Dispensaries, &c., in Town and Country.

COLE'S ALGA MARINA is the Concentrated

Essence of the Sea-weed, containing in a highly condensed form all the virtues of those plants, to which medical authorities ascribe the principal benefits derivable from a residence by the Sea. It affords speedy relief and a certain cure in all cases of Acute or Chronic Rheumatism, Rheumatic Gout, Neuralgia, and other pains in the limbs and joints. It is now rapidly superseding all other external remedies in cases of Weakness, Relaxation, Contractions, Paralysis, Stiffness, Deformities, Swellings, Tumours, Scaly Diseases, and the Malformations of Rickets or Scrofulous Children; and in all cases where friction is recommended, it will greatly increase its good effects. Sold in bottles, 2s., 9d., 4s., 6d., and 11s. each, by T. Keating, 75 St. Paul's Churchyard, London, and all Chemists. "A" all sufferers should read the Pamphlet, which may be had gratis on application, and by post on enclosing all postage stamps.

BEAUTIFUL HAIR, WHISKERS, and

MOUSTACHES, are invariably produced in 2 or 3 weeks, by COUPELLE'S CELEBRATED CEINTURIN, the almost marvellous powers of which in the production and restoration of hair, strengthening weak hair, checking greyness, rendering the hair luxuriant, curly, and glossy, must be seen to be believed. Dr. Ure says: "It is the only preparation he can recommend for the nursery, as forming the basis of a good head of hair." 2s. per package, at 68, Cornhill; 1s. 6d. at 155, St. Martin's-lane; 1s. 6d. at 78, High-street, Birmingham; 1s. 6d. at 10, Leith Walk, Edinburgh; and Micklegate, York; Whitaker, Sheffield; Halk, 116, Briggate, Leeds; Jones, 5, Paradise-street, Liverpool; Ferris and Co., Bristol; Westmacott, Manchester; Hennrich, Plymouth; Evans and Co., Exeter; Campbell, Glasgow; and through all Chemists; or sent post free for 2s. per package, by Rosalie Coupele, 60, Castle-street, Newcastle; Oxford-street, London.

LAW LIFE ASSURANCE OFFICE,
Fleet-street, London. 15th April 1905.

The DIVIDENDS for the year 1854 on the SHARES in this Society are NOW PAYABLE on any day between the hours of 10 and 3 o'clock.

By Order of the Directors,
WILLIAM SAMUEL DOWNS, Actuary.

UNITED MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE
SOCIETY, 55, Abchurch Lane, London.

Policies *indestructible*.
No charge for Policy Stamps.
Whole profits divided annually.
Assurances on the strictly mutual principle.
Invalid lives assured at equitable rates.

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ACTUARY AND SECRETARY.

CHARLES JELlicOFE, Esq.

The business of the Company comprises Assurances on Lives and Survivorships, the Purchase of Life Interests, the sale and purchase of contingent and deferred Annuities, Loans of Money on Mortgage, &c.

This Company was established in 1807, is empowered by the Act of Parliament 53 George III., and regulated by Deeds enrolled in the High Court of Chancery.

The Company was originally a strictly Proprietary one. The Assured now participate quinquennially in four-fifths of the amount to be divided.

The amount at present assured is 3,000,000*l.* nearly, and the income of the Company exceeds 150,000*l.* per annum.

The lives assured are permitted, in time of peace, without extra charge, to reside in any country (Australia and California excepted) north of 33 degrees north latitude, or south

of 33 degrees south latitude or to pass by sea (not being seafaring persons by profession) between any places lying in the same hemisphere, and not within those limits.

Assurances effected by persons on their own lives are not rendered void in the event of death occurring by suicide, duelling, or the hands of justice, unless such death takes place within one year from the date of the Policy.

All Policy Stamps and Medical Fees are now paid by the Company.
The Annual Reports of the Company's state and progress

Prospectuses and Forms, may be had, or will be sent, post free on application at the Office, or to any of the Company's Agents.

NEW AND PECULIAR SYSTEM OF LIFE ASSURANCE.

THE Directors of the NATIONAL ASSURANCE AND INVESTMENT ASSOCIATION invite attention to the New System of Life Assurance exclusively adopted by this Association—viz. that of allowing Interest

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